

THE AMERICAN

# LEGION

MAGAZINE

20c • APRIL 1973

## WHY IS MOSCOW DEALING WITH US?



WHAT'S NEW FOR YOUR TEETH?

THE SEABEES IN WW2



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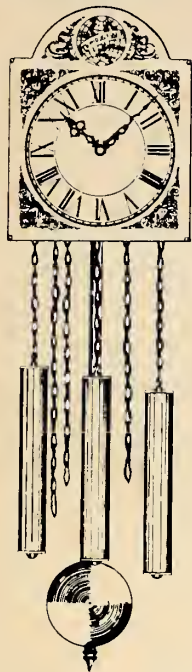
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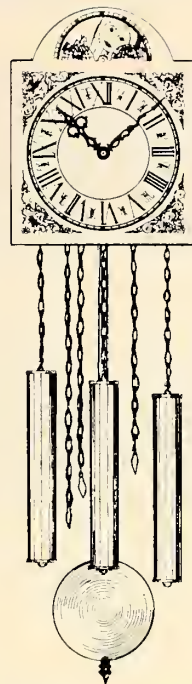
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The American

# LEGION

Magazine

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Manuscripts, artwork, cartoons submitted for consideration will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. This magazine assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material.



APRIL 1973  
Volume 94, Number 4  
National Commander  
Joe L. Matthews

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Subscribers, please notify Circulation Dept., P. O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, Ind., 46206 using Form 3578 which is available at your local post office. Attach old address label and give old and new addresses with ZIP Code number and current membership card number. Also, notify your Post Adjutant or other officer charged with such responsibilities.

The American Legion Magazine  
Editorial & Advertising Offices  
1345 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10019

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201-836-5755

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The American Legion Magazine is owned and published monthly by The American Legion. Copyright 1973 by The American Legion. Second class postage paid at Indianapolis, Ind., 46204 and additional mailing offices. Price: single copy, 20 cents; yearly subscription, \$2.00. Direct inquiries regarding circulation to: Circulation Department, P. O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

Send editorial and advertising material to: The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.

### NON-MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Send name and address, including ZIP number, with \$2 check or money order to Circulation Dept., P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

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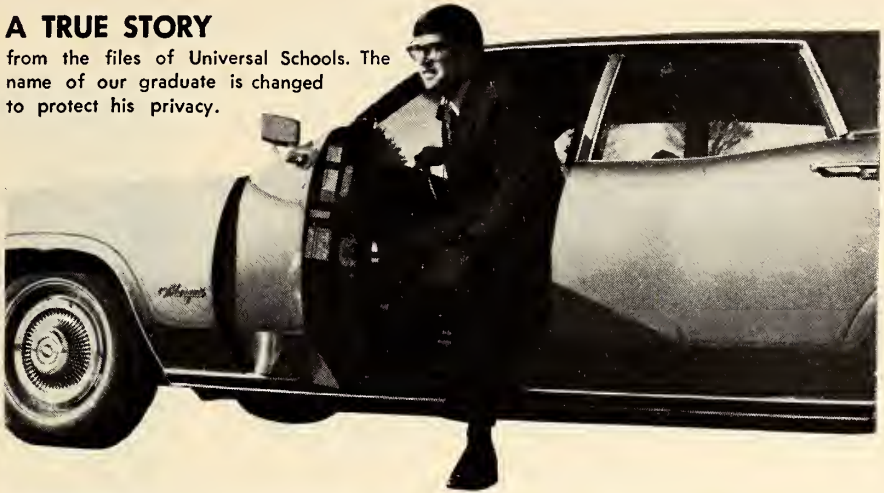
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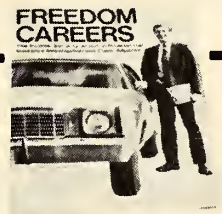
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters published do not necessarily express the policy of *The American Legion*. Keep letters short. Name and address must be furnished. Expressions of opinion and requests for personal service are appreciated, but they cannot be acknowledged or answered, due to lack of magazine staff for these purposes. Requests for personal services which may be legitimately asked of *The American Legion* should be made to your Post Service Officer or your state (Department) American Legion Hq. Send letters to the editor to: Letters, *The American Legion Magazine*, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.

## THE BOONS OF RESEARCH

SIR: Your fine article on the transistor ("A Happy 25th Anniversary to the Transistor," Feb.) contains the best brief argument I know for people to stop knocking technology and support sound research in pure science even if no conceivable use for it can be seen in advance. As you made clear, the Bell Telephone Labs invented the transistor by sinking a great deal of money into research to find a better device than the vacuum tube for amplifying long-distance telephone calls. Without this particular need of the phone companies, perhaps nobody would have made the investment needed to develop the transistor.

Now we have perhaps 100,000 or more people walking around with cardiac pacemakers who would be dead and

buried today if it weren't for an investment of a corporation to improve long-distance telephoning.

How lucky they are that Bell Labs had a motive to spend the money that produced solid-state electronics!

We never know what will come of well-founded research in pure science, and it behooves us not to knock it just because we can't foresee what will come of it.

CHRISTIAN V. WALTERS  
Seattle, Wash.

## CARRYING THE MAIL WEST

SIR: Lynwood Mark Rhodes's article, "How They Carried the Mail West" (Jan.), was a well-written, decidedly instructive article, well worth keeping and re-reading.

But how in Sam Hill did you get around to calling the "celerity" wagon a "Celebrity" wagon? The celerity wagon was a light rig, as compared with the Concord stages, and necessary for traveling very bad roads. The stage coach has been glorified plenty. Why not print a picture of the celerity wagon, which, while not so dramatic, should be equally famous.

C.B. AXFORD  
New York, N.Y.



Celerity wagon.

## U.S. AND THE COMMON MARKET

SIR: I just want to comment on the fine article written by Mr. Thomas Weyr in the February issue. ("The Common Market vs. U.S. Bread and Butter.") It reminds one of the parable of the hunter and the bear, which goes as follows: One day there was a hunter in the forest, and he came upon a clearing and there was a large bear in the middle of the clearing. The hunter raised his rifle, and just as he was taking aim, the bear said, "Just a minute, friend, don't shoot. What do you want?" The hunter said, "I want a fur coat." "Well," the bear said, "that's reasonable. What I want is a full stomach. Why don't we sit down and negotiate?" So the hunter said, "All right," and they sat down and negotiated. After a certain period of time, the bear got up and left alone. The bear had his full stomach and the hunter had his fur coat.

We cannot afford to do less than employ to the maximum our economic techniques, personnel and knowledge in the solution of this complex problem of our foreign trade which confronts our nation today. The article and its timing were Right on the Money (\$).

JOHN C. HUMIG  
Alamogordo, N. Mex.

## ATTN: WW2 INFANTRYMEN

SIR: For a history of Lunéville, France, in WW2, I am anxious to contact men who were in the 313th, 314th and 315th Infantry Regiments and 79th Infantry Division who were in my home town of Lunéville, Sept. 1944-Dec. 1945.

GERARD-PILLOT  
16 rue du Pont-Rouge  
54300 Lunéville, France

## ATTN: 841ST ENGR. AVN. BN. PERSONNEL

SIR: For a history of the WW2 841st Engineers Aviation Battalion that I am now putting together, I would like to hear from all members who could furnish me with information about anything of interest concerning the work and movements. This book will be given to all members at the 1974 reunion.

I would also like information from the Korean War members and Reserve units.  
THOMAS D. FARROW  
700 Worthington Ave.  
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

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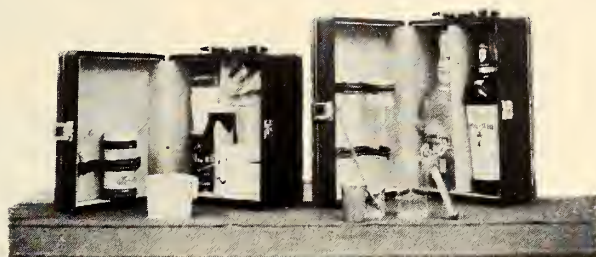
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By  
**PROF. ELLSWORTH RAYMOND**

**A** MOSCOW HISTORIAN, Andrei Amalrik, is doing penance in Siberia for an underground book he wrote three years ago. In it, he predicted a Russian-American alliance that would bolster an ailing Soviet regime. His book, "Will the Soviet Union Survive Until 1984?" said that, strange as it may seem, the Soviet Union "can already rely more" on the United States than on such communist satellite nations as Rumania or Czechoslovakia.

For writing that the Soviet Union is in such bad shape that it might not last until 1984 unless it can get the United States to bail it out, Amalrik was sentenced to Siberian imprisonment for "anti-Soviet slander."

Meanwhile, a good deal of his prediction seems to be coming true in the growing Soviet-U.S. talks, agreements and trade.

Amalrik addressed himself to a question which must loom large in the mind of every American. What are the reasons for the success—to date at least—of President Nixon's overtures to the Soviet Union?

On our side, President Nixon's motives for sitting down with Soviet leaders are not hard to read. He has made it clear that he is willing to do everything he can to cool the cold war by negotiation. If he can cool it, he will. If he can open profitable trade with the Soviets, he will. If he can reverse the arms race, he will. If he can establish a habit of reduced Soviet-American hostility, he will. His chief reservation is only that—while trying—we should not relax our guard. Such efforts have always been immensely popular in the United States, which didn't start the cold war and has long been sick of it.

But why has the Soviet Union been receptive? It is not too long since Khrushchev ranted and screamed and beat his shoe on the table in a UN diatribe against us, sent Soviet missiles into Cuba, and defined "peaceful coexistence" as a non-shooting economic war that would bury us under the superior industry, agriculture and technology of the Soviet state in open competition.

Why has Brezhnev totally changed "peaceful coexistence" from a western

Dr. Raymond is a professor in the Politics Dep't of New York University, specializing in studies of Russian affairs. He has followed his specialty since 1938, when he was a research analyst and chief translator at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. He has authored three books as well as some 40 articles in his field in leading U.S. magazines. Here he discusses in everyday language the essential reasons why Moscow has been receptive to President Nixon's approaches.



Russia turns to West as rift with China persists. Above, anti-Soviet demonstration in Peking.

# Why is Moscow

A summing up of events that help explain why the Kremlin has switched from shoe-pounding threats to velvet gloves and welcoming smiles.

funeral to a seeming honeymoon of diplomacy, disarmament, trade, tourism, space, science and everything but political ideology? What do the Russians hope to get out of a new sweetness?

Nobody believes that this new, awkward courtship on both sides reveals any new-found love between communism and capitalism. It is most certainly an arrangement of convenience. What convenience, on their side, and how long can it last?

We can at least examine the pieces. Certainly the open conflict between Russia and China is one of the more obvious pieces. Strategically, it behooves the Soviets to ease enmities in the west when Russia has a powerful enemy inside the communist camp along her eastern border.

President Nixon exploited this turn of events to the hilt in his dual dealings with both hostile red giants. For the first time since the cold war began, he was able to put the United States in the role of a third—and balancing—great power, instead of in the role of one of two chief

contenders in the rivalries of major nations.

For the first 50 years or so of her existence, the Soviet Union proposed to crowd capitalism and democracy off the map by spreading "the socialist revolution" (i.e.: communism) to more and more nations. After some success, she is now experiencing what all empire builders come to—the "colonies" don't love the "mother country."

In eastern Europe she still holds her "converts" in the system at gunpoint.

In eastern Asia, her greatest "success"—Red China—has become more dangerous to Soviet security than uncommunized China was.

The reality of empire is far different from the dream of it. In the dream, a united communist empire would sink western capitalism. In the reality, empire breeds enemies within. The effort to hold it together can consume the dream and the dreamer. Could the Russians, who patiently abetted Mao Tse-tung's successful drive to communize China in 1949, have foreseen that while Mao still



UPI



One factor inducing Russia to turn from threat to conciliation is the menace of nuclear war.

# Dealing With Us?

lived the Soviets would feel it necessary to post more than 60 divisions on the Chinese border?

The enmity of Russia and China can be expected to put a brake, at least, on Soviet provocation of western nations as long as it lasts. How long that will be, no man knows. But to some extent, easier western relations with Russia and China depend on the continuing enmity of these two. This could become intolerable to both of them. The Soviets may set out to resolve the embarrassment either through overtures to China or final military dominance over her. In China, some influential military leaders favor a quick settlement with the Soviets. A settlement might be good news for the two communist monsters, but bad news for the rest of the world. But distrust between them would probably continue in the face of any friendly settlement. In any event, the Russo-Chinese enmity has bred some of the Soviet sweetness toward the west, and its duration is unsure.

Another piece of the picture of Soviet receptiveness is the nuclear danger. The present Soviet regime seems genuinely aware that nuclear war can only have losers; that there is no future in belligerence based on nuclear power, and that there is enormous danger, throughout the future, that some irresponsible act on the part of any nation on earth may bring

UPI



Grain shortage saw Russia turn to us in \$1 billion grain deal in 1972. Above, Russian ship loads part of purchase in Houston.



## Why is Moscow Dealing With Us?

on a disaster that nobody would escape.

There is considerable indication that this realization is at last having the sobering effect in Russia that was implicit in it years ago.

The nuclear situation is permanent, but for how long it will be soberly regarded (to inspire the Soviets to depend more on negotiations than on bluster) is an open question. Khrushchev felt free to issue threats of enormous destruction. Outwardly at least, Brezhnev expresses as much concern as anyone in the United States about the dangers of a nuclear disaster—and he professes a joint U.S.-USSR responsibility to prevent it. We may credit the Soviet regime with at least some—and perhaps much—sincerity, based on fear and self-interest, in negotiating for saner nuclear policies. But the permanence of such attitudes is dependent on how the next Soviet regime sees it, and the next and the next.

Amalrik went to jail for alleging a third major piece of the puzzle of Soviet receptivity to Mr. Nixon's approaches. Moscow, he said, is seeking American aid to revitalize a rotting Soviet regime at home.

Is this true, and would the Soviet Union so quickly swallow its words about burying us in open competition, to woo us instead as an economic and technical partner?

You won't get the answer in the Soviet press. There you will read that the new understandings with America seek world peace and a lessening of tensions, and are an act of kindness to open new markets for American corporations that are suffering from a recession. That, of course, is a face-saving way of saying

that Russia badly needs the fruits of American industry and trade.

It is an open secret that in spite of the internal progress which the USSR has made over a span of a half century, she is still in a bad economic way in comparison with every industrial and major farming nation of the west. Amalrik, who knew the situation better than any foreigner can, felt free to risk his freedom with a prediction that the regime couldn't last until 1984 without a shot in the arm from abroad. Whether his crystal ball is reliable or not, there is no question that the Soviets still fail to measure up to their promises at home and are in trouble over it. They need western help and trade so badly that they are willing to eat crow for a while at least.

The highly heralded Soviet industrial reform—putting factories on a profit basis—has yielded an erratic rate of industrial growth that is lower than it was in Stalin's time. Published Soviet statistics show that factories are still poorly mechanized, with 60% of industrial workers performing crude hand labor that could as well be done by machines—if they had them. For all her military and rocket technology, her scientists admit that USSR research lags behind U.S. science, and the gap is growing.

Even under good weather conditions, a fifth of Soviet crops are ruined by bugs, blight and weeds under a farming system that is too slowly improving from a wretchedly mismanaged previous state. In years of bad weather the food supply in the USSR continues to reach disasterously low levels, and it is never plentiful. The year 1972 was a bad weather year. The crop shortage induced the USSR to

buy a billion dollars worth of American corn and grain, and indeed no nations in her own camp could have filled her food gap.

Despite a slowly rising standard of living, the Soviet press still complains about store shortages of simple items like clothing, dishes, kitchen utensils, furniture, medicine, eyeglasses, watches, cameras, saws, radios, television sets, washing machines and school textbooks.

It is only too obvious that the USSR is still a raw frontier that won't be developed fast enough to satisfy its citizens without foreign help. The radical French economist, J.J. Servan-Schreiber, takes the view that the United States under President Nixon is stealing a march on the European nations in getting the business. The Russians, he says, "have decided 100% to open themselves to western industrial development. But they are doing this with the U.S.A., not Europe. Russia is the new Far West for America. The USSR is a very rich country to develop. And the situation in China resembles that of Russia." The French writer is beyond asking why the USSR is doing business with us, he is scolding his fellow Europeans for letting the United States beat them to it.

It is only because we tend to forget history that the present Soviet attitudes may seem new. The USSR has always followed extremely flexible and realistic policies when in serious trouble. Time and again in the past she has ceased belaboring us when she badly needed our help, and American aid has often been granted. She has been as quick to initiate friendly talks with bitter foes, when her defense strategy seemed to require it.

Fifty years ago the young USSR found itself in dire need. Drought—added to mismanagement and oppression

SOVFOTO



Magnitogorsk steel plant was built in the 30's by General Electric, one of many U.S. firms to aid Russian industry.

SOVFOTO



The Dnieper hydroelectric power station (above, its opening in 1932) was the creation of two American engineers, Hugh Cooper and Alexander Winter.





Autos rolling off Russian assembly line, provided by the Ford Motor Company, which sent over its River Rouge plant, along with many skilled workers, in 1930.

of small farmers—struck the breadbaskets of the Ukraine and lower Volga valley. Millions of Soviet citizens were threatened by death from famine. The Soviet government appealed for aid from the American Relief Administration, which agreed to help. During 1922-1923, millions of Soviet citizens in the Ukraine and Volga valley were given American food and inoculated with vaccines. This aid was paid for by an appropriation of \$20 million from the U.S. Government, which at the time refused to grant diplomatic recognition to the USSR. Possibly the American Relief Administration helped keep the early Soviet regime in power.

During the 1930's, thousands of American engineers and technicians

worked in the USSR, helping build the industries of the early Five-Year Plans. Seven American chief engineers received the Order of Lenin—Russia's highest decoration. One American firm—Albert Kahn, Inc.—designed 570 of the new factories constructed during the first Five-Year Plan. Two others—Arthur G. McKee & Co. and General Electric—planned and built the Magnitogorsk steel plant, the largest in the eastern hemisphere. The Dnieper hydroelectric power station, then the biggest in the world, was created by two American engineers, Hugh Cooper and Alexander Winter.

During the Nazi-Soviet war, the U.S. machinery firms survived and even prospered by filling vast USSR orders.

When WW2 began, most of Russia's steel plants, nonferrous metallurgy and truck and tractor factories were operating with American machinery. The Ford Motor Company even sent over its entire River Rouge auto plant, together with several thousand of its skilled workers. This aid was not a gift. The Soviet government paid the American firms and engineers with western hard currency earned from USSR exports. Sometimes gold was even exported to pay for the precious machines.

During the Nazi-Soviet war, the U.S.A. shipped \$11 billion worth of lend-lease supplies to the USSR. One billion dollars worth was sunk at sea, but the rest arrived safely. One of every three new machine tools put in operation in wartime USSR was American. U.S. machinery largely rebuilt Ukrainian heavy industry after south European USSR was reconquered from the Germans. Half the Soviet merchant marine was sunk during the war, yet lend-lease ships more than replaced the loss. Enough military cloth was shipped to clothe 3 million Red Army soldiers. Lend-lease food kept alive Soviet Arctic ports, which otherwise might have starved. America supplied the landing craft which the Red Army later used to invade Korea at the end of WW2, and the fuel and trucks Soviet mechanized columns used to conquer Manchuria.

Thanks to America, Soviet rocket technology was aided at the close of WW2. Driving deep into east Germany, the U.S. Army captured the city of Nordhausen, where an old mine contained the factory and research laboratory for the German V-2 rockets. Several months after the Nazi surrender, the U.S. Army withdrew from this region, taking along many of the German rocket scientists. But the factory and laboratory were left intact for the Red Army when the region became part of the Soviet zone of occupation.

Before WW2, the United States had very few munitions factories. During the war a large American armament industry was built at great expense by the government. After the war it was decided to preserve this industry for future emergency, even though the munitions plants would be partly or wholly idle in peacetime.

At the war's end, Stalin asked for a \$6 billion American loan, part of which would be used to purchase the U.S. standby armament industry. Russia explained that the USSR would thus relieve the U.S.A. of a white-elephant industry, unproductive in peacetime and costly to maintain. With the cold war commencing, the U.S. Government quickly pared this monetary request down to \$1 billion, then dropped the matter entirely. So Stalin failed to buy America's munitions industry with American money. But he



## Why is Moscow Dealing With Us?

had no hesitation in asking for the loan.

The cold war soon gave birth to the Truman Embargo, forbidding U.S. export of strategic goods or machines to the entire Soviet orbit of nations. Both Stalin and Khrushchev protested in vain against this semi-blockade, which, after 23 years, has now been lifted by the Brezhnev-Nixon trade agreement.

The fact is that the incompetent Kremlin has mismanaged giant Russia into endless economic depressions, which only American aid can heal. All communist statistics reveal that the Soviets suffer a lower standard of living than their European colonies of East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and even backward Bulgaria. These satellites send technical aid to the less-developed USSR. So great are Soviet shortages of everything except armament that industrial Russia imports clothes from India, ships from Egypt, telephones from Yugoslavia, electric light bulbs from Hungary, furniture from Czechoslovakia, and railway cars from agricultural Rumania.

Most machinery in Soviet factories is admittedly about 17 years old, is almost worn out, and must be replaced fast. Russia has already borrowed two billion dollars from western Europe to pay for machinery imports, thus exhausting its European credit. So Brezhnev needs huge U.S. loans to buy huge quantities of new U.S. machines which will save Soviet industry from old-age collapse.

The Soviet system injects political considerations into industry and farming which hurt production. The remedy would be to grant freedoms which themselves endanger the system.

Today, as in the past, some freedoms that ape capitalism have been granted. When this was done before, the freedoms were withdrawn as soon as the crisis was over, and efficiency was promptly crushed by bureaucracy.

In Amalrik's view, low productivity has now bred so much internal discontent that if the system itself isn't in danger, the present leaders are. On this, Amalrik based his question whether the present regime could last until 1984 without seeking American aid, answered "no," and went to Siberia while Moscow opened American trade talks. It is all a far cry from Khrushchev's claim that in open competition Soviet production would bury us.

As there is nothing new in Soviet requests for U.S. economic cooperation, there is nothing new, either, in the Soviets' amicable approach to one declared enemy when threatened by another. The last time Russia reversed her field—to proclaim friendly relations with a powerful nation that she had been assailing—came in 1939 with the Nazi-Soviet pact.

To the consternation of communist parties overseas, the USSR made a deal with Hitler faster than the world party line that had been attacking Fascism could readjust itself.

Overnight, Molotov proclaimed that "August 23, 1939, the day the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact was signed, is to be regarded as a date of great historical importance." It was, he said, a "turning point in the history of Europe, and not only Europe." Only yesterday, he said, "we were enemies." But "today . . . we are enemies no longer." The art of politics, Molotov explained, is to "make the enemies of yesterday good neighbors." The plain fact was that Russia was scared to death of Hitler, and would rather talk than fight.

Brezhnev's words following the 1972

On top of that, Russia feared a two-front war against Germany on the west and the Japanese Empire on the east. During four previous years, Soviet frontier forces had fought as many as 1,600 skirmishes against Japanese troops along the Manchurian border. When the Nazi-Soviet pact was signed, Russian and Japanese armies were waging a small, undeclared war in the Mongolian desert. Russia finally had to fight Hitler, but managed to sit out WW2 in the Pacific, entering just in time to collect some fruits of the Japanese defeat.

By 1972, Moscow was again worried about enemies on two sides—this time capitalist America on the west and communist China on the east. Chinese border incidents had erupted for ten years. One of them escalated into a medium-sized battle, and in one year there were as many as 5,000 "incidents."

Brezhnev has claimed that the "Chi-

WIDE WORLD PHOTO



Former bitter foes, Nazis and Soviets sign Moscow non-aggression pact in 1939.

summit meeting with President Nixon are remarkably like Molotov's words in 1939. "The talks . . . can be termed historic," he said. "It may well be that May 1972 will be remembered as the dawn of new hope. . . ."

Possibly it will be the dawn of new hope, but Brezhnev's words would be more reassuring had they been said at a time when Soviet strategic needs were less similar to those of 1939.

By 1939, Hitler was certainly heading for war. The Soviets had been meeting Hitler's bluster with their own. Suddenly, they realized that Hitler meant his. Russia's best interests would be served if Nazi Germany and the western allies destroyed one another while the Soviets—who were ill-prepared in any event—could sit out WW2 and pick up the pieces afterward. On that score alone it was time to sweet-talk Hitler. (Actually, it was too late.)

nese people are being oriented to 'starve and prepare for war.' " Russia has little to fear in a conflict between the modern weaponry of the two nations. That of the Soviets is vastly superior, though Brezhnev has even accused China of plotting a nuclear war against Russia. What Russia does fear is a sort of Vietnam conflict in which the enormous manpower of China could put as many as 100 million men on the ground against a maximum of 15 million Russian soldiers.

As the Soviets have to see it, the real disaster would lie in a two-front war in which her superior technological arms would have to be used holding off sophisticated western enemies while a sea of Chinese on foot engulfed her from the east. Against such a threat, nothing in Soviet history offers a strategy for victory.

Against Napoleon and Hitler, Soviet pincers eventually surrounded deeply in-



vading forces in western Russia, first from France, then from Germany. But tens of millions of Chinese invaders advancing on an enormous eastern front could hardly be surrounded. To deal with them, Russia must be totally free from concern on her other flank, and concentrate not only her armies but the bulk of her modern weapons on the east. While the danger lasts, it is wiser to come to terms with the west.

A Chinese-Soviet war may never erupt, but the Kremlin cannot take chances. More than half a million Russian troops are massed along the Chinese frontier, anxiously watching the 2 million Chinese soldiers just across the border. The boundary is so long, wooded and mountainous that brigades of armed civilians patrol to help Soviet army sentries, and schoolboys are trained to spot Chinese spies.

Behind the tense border, the whole USSR is carefully preparing for land war. Each summer, 7 million boys of the Young Pioneer society (Soviet boy scouts) compete in nationwide military games with prizes for victorious teams. Compulsory military training for high school youths, abolished by rocket-minded Khrushchev, has been revived by his infantry-minded successors. Technical high schools have just changed their compulsory course in civil defense to a program of infantry training. The Soviets suddenly see that a nuclear war with China could be mutual suicide—that her great advantage in that respect is nullified by her unwillingness to use nuclear bombs. China would get the worst of the nuclear boom, but the Soviets might lose some whole cities and share the fallout with the world. If tens of millions of Chinese foot soldiers invade Russia while neither side dares atomic war, Brezhnev expects every Soviet citizen to fight to the last child—and hopes for a one-front war.

The actual possibility of a war with China has probably helped sober the Soviet view of a possible nuclear disaster. So has the ease with which other nations—including China—can now make nuclear weapons. Russia appears to have finally realized that an atomic war with anyone would be a disaster for all, and that a policy of bluster based on rattling nuclear weapons is—if anything—more dangerous than her war of words with Hitler before she realized he was for real.

Khrushchev proudly boasted that “the Soviet Union today has the means to deliver a crushing blow to the aggressor at any point on the globe.” Of course, he said, all countries would suffer, but Russia would survive great losses. Her immense territory and scattered population would give her the last word in survival, while a nuclear war would be the end of western capitalism.

His successors are not so cheery about

surviving great losses. The Soviet press in 1972 sounded cautious and solemn when it said: “The agreement [with America] to limit strategic arms is a victory for common sense, a victory . . . for all . . . who realize that in this [arms] race there can only be losers.”

There's more to the picture than reducing the power of Americans and Russians to kill each other. Unless the world leaders act together, some smaller nation is more apt to flex nuclear muscles. Khrushchev's boast overlooked the fact that atomic weapons can make weak nations strong, and that boasting about Soviet power might drive them to get their own superbombs fast.

The bombs are no longer as costly to manufacture, once a country has the nuclear explosive. Till now, explosive uranium and plutonium have been hideously expensive to produce. But West

LONDON DAILY EXPRESS PICTORIAL PARADE



Bodies of Russian border guards who died in clash with Chinese troops in Dec. 1971.

Germany and Holland have separately found a cheap method of creating atomic explosives. Only \$60 million is now needed to start explosive manufacture compared to the \$2 billion spent originally by Franklin Roosevelt's U.S.A. America has asked Germany and Holland not to use or reveal the new method, but scientists in other nations will soon unfathom the cheaper technique. It is one we abandoned early in the game. Many small countries can obviously afford \$60 million to gain atomic power.

Atomic power stations are being built throughout the world—not just in Russia, America and England, but in small, poor nations with Soviet, American or British help. These stations use atomic piles, capable of conversion to explosive uranium or plutonium in atom bombs. Soon, new stations will be “breeders,” producing more fuel than they consume. Such excess fuel can be used for bombs.

Nuclear ships already sail the seven seas, and some day the world will enjoy

atomic trains, trucks and planes, all using radioactive fuel. Even a gigantic inspection force will not be able to watch every pound of nuclear fuel, and how it's used.

Today, America, Russia, Britain, France and China all produce hydrogen bombs, while West Germany, Holland, Canada, India and Sweden claim they know how to manufacture these means of mass destruction. Let's gaze into the cheerless future: Cuba, Egypt, Albania, Israel, Pakistan or North Korea might manufacture the explosive, make nuclear bombs and have some means of delivery, like mini-bombers or intermediate rockets. Will their rulers be as cautious as the leaders of the present “nuclear club”?

Tackling this grim problem, the United States, USSR and Britain in 1968 drafted and signed a worldwide treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. All nations on earth were invited to join this disaster-avoiding pact. By treaty terms, any signatory country now lacking nuclear bombs agrees never to purchase or produce them. If a nation be threatened by atomic attack, Russia and America promise jointly to defend it. Thus, in an unusual type of possible future war, the U.S. and USSR might again fight side by side as they did against Hitler.

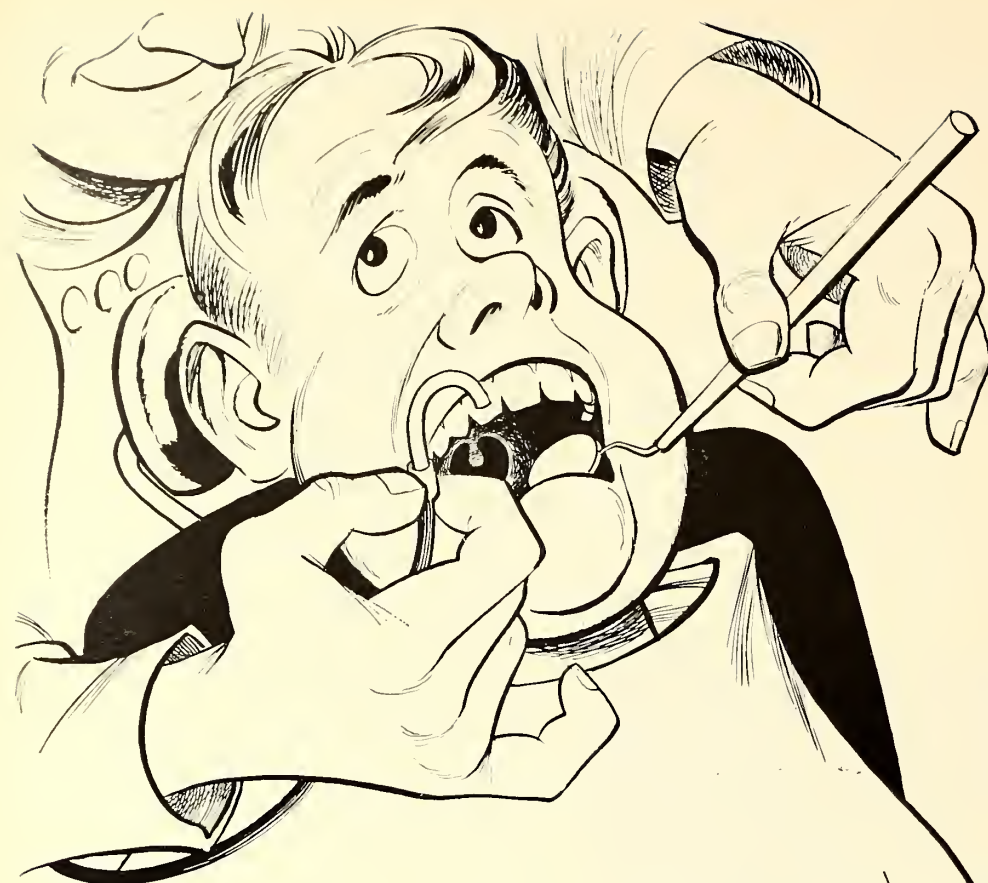
It is not easy to imagine this happening, but it is a threat to any other nations which dream of nuclear adventure. And it is credible only as long as the present nuclear superpowers remain on speaking terms.

Americans, in fact, have been among the last to see a commonality between the Soviets and the United States in the shape of things. Many non-nuclear nations protested that the signing of the nuclear treaty would leave them at Soviet-American mercy. But the horror of hydrogen war has convinced 100 nations to sign the pact. It went into force in 1970, two years before the Nixon-Brezhnev talks.

Of the nuclear club members, France stubbornly refuses to sign. China also refuses, screaming that Russia and America have allied to rule the world.

Thus, of all the factors that are inducing the two largest powers to bury the hatchet, the most permanent one seems to be the development of these weapons of awful destruction. The Soviet Union might decide at some point that she doesn't need our trade any more. She may or may not resolve her conflict with China sooner or later. But if she continues to take the threat of nuclear war seriously, we may see more cooperation in Russian-American relations for as long as no nation feels that it has maneuvered itself into a position of overwhelming offensive and defensive superiority against all comers. THE END





# What's New for Your Teeth?

A strategy for better tooth care based on the old military doctrine of "know your enemy" is beginning to get results.

By H. ALLEN PERRY

**R**ECENT advances in dental science have come up with some new ways to patch up or replace your teeth.

They also confirm the old idea that if you want to hang on to whatever teeth you have, you'd better keep them clean. But at the same time they make it clear that keeping teeth clean is far from easy. Though such a seemingly simple thing as tooth cleanliness is a central problem of our war against tooth decay and

gum disease germs, the germs have been winning it.

Some of these bacteria are very difficult to dislodge or neutralize. They moor themselves to the teeth, cloak themselves in invisible armor and hide in crevices that toothbrushes miss. Dental science has retaliated with a great deal of study of the habits of bacteria that cause tooth and gum trouble—in line with the old military adage: "Know your enemy." Understanding how they operate has suggested a number of indirect ways to get at them.

It takes something special for a germ to live on a tooth.

Consider the poor bacterium who wants to make a permanent home in your mouth, if he is a total stranger. It is a fearsome environment. The mouth is the most active part of the human body. The motions of the tongue and cheeks and the swishing of saliva churn more than an automatic laundry. Hurricanes of wind and great roars of sound are almost constant. Chemical changes are abrupt. Even the air that rushes by is heavy with oxygen on the intake and with carbon dioxide on the way out. Air pollution is often terrible, what with tobacco smoke or worse in many cases. The liquid chemical environment is a fright, and the temperature changes are extreme as hot coffee and cold beer, or even stronger potions, rush past in unpredictable floods. Great, bony structures chomp and grind as the Host chews, swallows and grimaces. Even holding on to the wet, slippery teeth is a task. You could get swallowed yourself. One would think that any self-respecting germ would prefer to be swallowed—to get past this terrible place as fast as possible and seek a more equable climate in the intestines or the blood stream.

But whole groups of microscopic organisms, both plant and animal, have discovered that there's always a fresh supply of food in the mouth, and so they have adapted to all its horrors for the sake of the feast to be had.

Probably their original invasion was quite harmless to the Host millions of years ago. He could spare the passing food they ate and never miss it. They may even have helped clean his teeth.

Their approach is this:

Coming aboard, they face the quarter-deck, salute smartly, make the "V" sign and promptly release a sort of glue called "dextran" and stick themselves to the teeth with it. With dextran as a base, they coat the teeth with a film called "plaque." It may be a thin and almost invisible film to us, but to the bacteria the plaque is a home within a home—a shelter, a fortress.

The best footholds for plaque formation are also the places where the food lodges best—in the craggy, grinding surfaces of the molars, in the spaces between teeth and in lodgments along the gumline.

At some point in their history some of these bacteria discovered that if—while cuddled up in their plaque blanket—they released lactic acid it would open a hatch to a meal in a better climate below decks, the pulp and the softer bone under the tough tooth enamel. The acid could open the door by eating through the enamel. (It appears that when the Host started eating refined sugar he gave the bugs an assist. Not only is refined sugar a wonderful food



for them, but it is also a choice material for making acid in order to drill through the enamel faster.)

In recent years, man has counter-attacked by ingesting fluorides, or by brushing or painting the teeth with them. Fluorine has recently been shown to be one of 24 elements now known to be

of human making that would keep the germs out.

Dr. Michael Buonocore, of the Eastman Dental Care Clinic, in Rochester, N.Y., has come up with a tough, thin plastic sealant to paint over the cleaned, grinding surfaces of molars.

In its first test, it beat the toothpaste

are already using it, at about \$25 for a complete molar job. The sealant lasts quite a while. Early government test results show that 99.5% of the sealant is there—with no cavities under it—after a year. After two years, the figure is about 87.5%.

So far, it seems that the sealant can save what's left of many adult teeth, and it should do wonders for children who start getting it while they're young, even on their baby teeth.

Getting your molar surfaces "sealed" is a simple matter. The plastic is applied with a camel's-hair brush, then painlessly "baked" on with an ultraviolet flashlight. If you have fillings, the sealant can still help you, so long as there's any natural tooth surface left. If your biting surfaces are capped or all silver or gold, forget it. The sealant isn't being used to coat the fronts or the backs of teeth, since cavities don't often spring up there. And there's no easy way to get the sealant between the teeth, where cavities are a problem.

The plastic sealant simply prevents plaque from forming directly on the teeth, so the bacteria and the acid they make can't get close enough to do any damage.

Dentists have been coating teeth directly with enamel-hardening fluoride compounds for several years. Now, a number of researchers are testing fluoride painting and plastic sealant together, in a sort of fail-safe war against cavities.

Effective as it is, the sealant is only a part of a hide-and-go-seek game. Lodgments for plaque formation (and food) remain along the gumline as well as between the teeth.

The idea of arming us with an inoculation that would make our body chem-



For a strange bacterium, living on the teeth is an impossible proposition. Just holding on in floods of hot and cold fluids, gales and churnings is a problem. But the natives have it all licked. They glue themselves on with dextran, hide in crevices and drill into the tough tooth enamel with strong acids.



necessary to life in warmblooded animals in at least tiny amounts. Compounds of fluorine in nontoxic amounts seem to make the tooth enamel tougher and more impervious to the bugs' assault.

This does not get rid of the bacteria, it simply makes it more difficult for them to get inside the teeth. Alas, say some dentists, many members of an overconfident public are now relying too heavily on fluorides. They are more careless in cleaning their teeth, and in consuming unseemly amounts of refined sugar. Such carelessness only gives the bugs what they need to meet the fluoride challenge—time in which to work and a good fuel supply for making more acid. People are getting cavities, fluorides or no. As the ads say, Johnny had fewer cavities, not none.

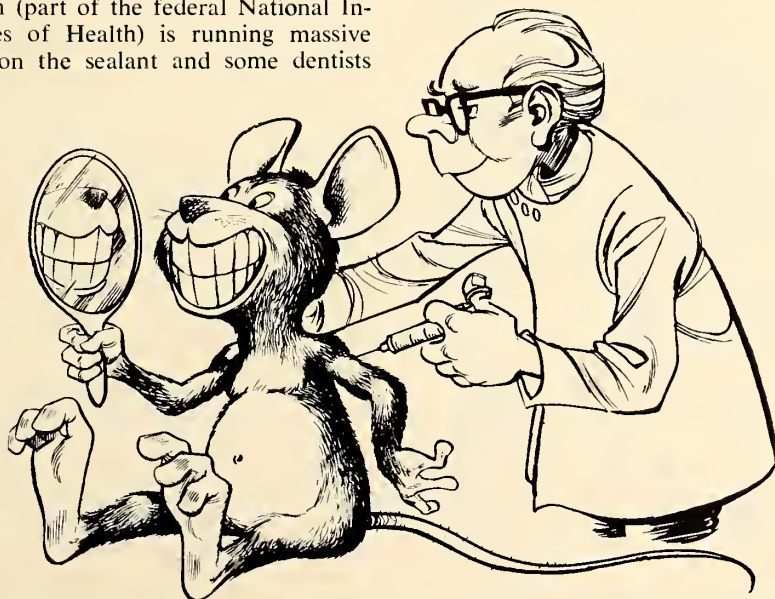
The thought has occurred that man might attack the bugs indirectly, by striking at the sticky plaque-dextran film on which they depend for survival.

One bright idea, on which a little progress has been made, is to come up with a sort of "vaccine" which would cause our bodies to destroy dextran as fast as the bacteria tried to lay it down.

A different notion, which is already in limited use, is to clean the teeth carefully and then coat them with a "plaque"

ads, providing nearly 100% protection against cavities in 60 children. Only one side of each little mouth got the sealant. No cavities formed there in the time it took for decay to start on the unsealed side in 42% of the cases.

The National Institute of Dental Research (part of the federal National Institutes of Health) is running massive tests on the sealant and some dentists



A sort of vaccination against tooth decay has had a good effect on laboratory rats. That puts the rats one up on us, for whom it is not yet very effective.



## What's New For Your Teeth?

istry destroy dextran is more appealing if less successful so far. Dr. Arthur N. Bahn, of Northwestern University, and several British dental researchers are working on it. Dr. Bahn has come up with an injection for laboratory rats which sets their body chemistry to work dissolving dextran, thus removing the decay bacteria's secret weapon for holding on. Inoculated rats had 60% fewer cavities than their uninoculated relatives who ate the same diets. British scientists, using a different kind of shot, have gotten even better results—on rats.

That puts the rats one up on people, since tests on humans are inconclusive so far. If this can be made to work on us, it just might bring an era when you get your tooth shots along with your routine vaccinations in infancy, and dentistry becomes a dwindling profession. However, there's no point in getting prematurely excited. Who knows what the bugs would think up next?

Two Britishers think that total plaque removal might upset the ecology of the mouth and lead to unforeseen new troubles. They suggest a less drastic possible cure-all.

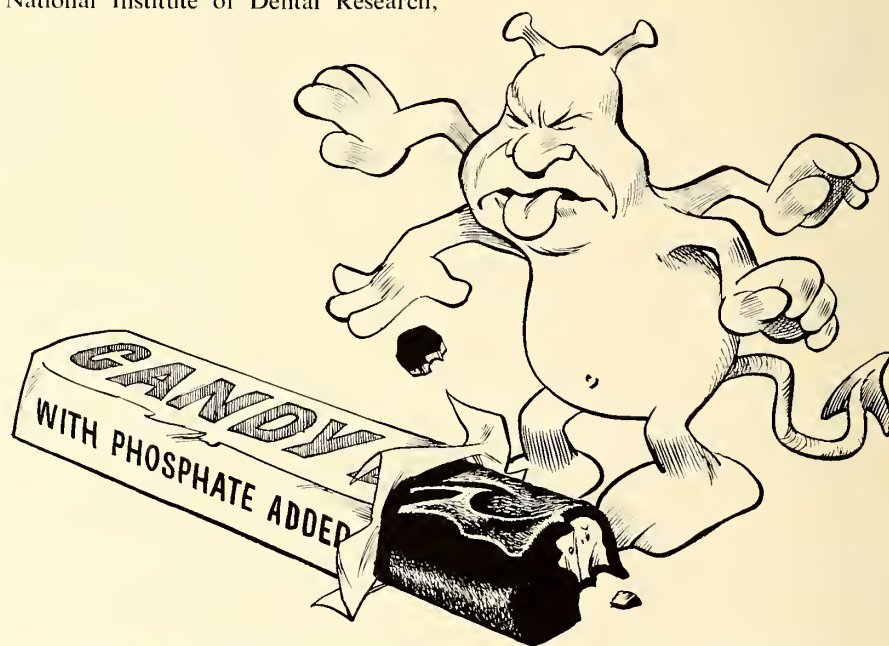
Some oral bacteria that are deprived of oxygen develop a new chemistry to make out without it, and their oxygen-starved chemistry is especially troublesome to our dental health. The

Britishers—Drs. D. F. G. Poole and N. H. Newman—suggest that if we keep all tooth surfaces exposed to air, clean out all impacted food, yet tolerate a minimum of plaque, all might be well. But most dental science is betting that an extermination program would be to the good. Fortunately, we don't have to commit every mouth to plaque extermination in order to test conflicting views. But first we need a total extermination program to test.

While we are waiting for our tooth shots, the war on dextran proceeds in the mouthwash field.

Dextranase is an enzyme that dissolves dextran. (You can tell most enzymes from their names. Biochemical word-coiners put an "ase" on the end.) According to Dr. Henry Scherp, of the National Institute of Dental Research,

studies have shown that human patients who take penicillin by mouth for rheumatic fever or other diseases, over a two-to-five-year period, have 54% to 69% fewer cavities than people of the same age who haven't been taking antibiotics orally. Deliberate tests on rats and hamsters have resulted in 90% fewer cavities when antibiotics were included in their food and water. The children of these creatures also got fewer cavities, which suggested that many of the bacteria are passed on from generation to generation by mouth-to-mouth contact between parents and children. In this case, the parent rats and hamsters didn't have any to pass. This raises the suspicion that love isn't the cure for everything, that kissing one's children may



Phosphate in the diet seems to discourage tooth decay in several ways, while refined sugar (with phosphate removed) seems to encourage it. Phosphate additives to sweets are now being considered as tooth savers.



A recent wrinkle is the individual plastic tooth, molded to the shape of an extracted one and implanted in its socket.

hamsters on a high-sugar diet (real good for encouraging rapid tooth decay) get far fewer cavities if they are given dextranase in their drinking water. The Institute is now conducting studies on human beings to see if a dextranase mouthwash can help dissolve plaque.

Maybe those mouthwashes that advertise that they kill bacteria do kill some. It is quite obvious that they don't kill the right ones in large enough quantities or we would have been out of the dentist's chair long ago. The idea of regularly putting anything in your mouth that will slaughter the germs has patently failed to date. Antiseptic mouthwashes may have helped—who knows? They certainly haven't won the war. Maybe an anti-dextran wash will work where anti-germ washes fail.

There is a way to slaughter the bacteria, but nobody is very enthusiastic about it. According to Dr. Scherp,

speed the day when their teeth decay.

Dr. Scherp and his colleagues are reluctant to call for an all-out antibiotic war on mouth bacteria. It would be a shotgun approach, which has proved to be a use of antibiotics that is better saved for emergencies.

But Dr. Scherp is convinced that there must be a way to use antibiotics more like a rifle in tooth decay. He and other researchers are trying to find chemicals that harm only the bacteria in the mouth. They're also working on a way to paint the antibiotic right onto the teeth, instead of dosing the whole body with it. Several years of testing lie ahead, though, and of all the possible new methods of preventing tooth decay, antibiotics may be the furthest down the line.

Since the war on plaque hasn't been won in the labs yet, dentists are trying to educate patients to attack it more

ILLUSTRATED BY BOB CLARKE





A host of chemical applications to teeth now reduces the need for the drill.

effectively themselves—to fight off decay and gum disease too.

Plaque is blamed not only for tooth decay in the first half of life, but for the more common gum diseases in later years that cause loss of teeth even if they've never decayed or have pretty well been filled. Its role in gum disease is more complex than its role in tooth decay. About 25 years ago, Dr. Charles Bass, dean emeritus of Tulane University's Medical School, pioneered the present concepts with original studies that attributed most decay and gum disease to plaque and its resident bacteria. His ideas have caught on slowly, but a recent survey shows about a sixth of American dentists teaching their patients plaque removal.

According to Dr. Bass and others, plaque provides a foundation for hard mineral deposits—tartar or calculus formed largely from saliva—to build up. Along the gumline, tartar nudges the gums away from their tight hold on the teeth. Then the bacteria move the plaque line down a peg. Tartar follows and the process is repeated until the infection runs deep. Now the door is open to a variety of organisms to attack the sockets and loosen the hold of jaw and gums on teeth. The gums themselves become infected and bleed, and in the end the teeth just loosen and fall out.

The trouble with trying to get rid of

plaque in front of your bathroom mirror is that it is quite invisible. You can brush the remains of your last meal off and still leave the plaque, while it takes special armaments to reach the more difficult areas.

Now there are "disclosing" tablets and wafers made of red food dye that are

available in most drugstores. Pop one in your mouth, chew it up and rinse. Take a look inside. Wherever it's red, that's where the plaque is. The stain doesn't last long enough to give you a red smile all day.

There's also a "disclosing fluid" with no red stain that some dentists use, and you could too. You swish it around in your mouth and rinse. A "plaque light" is then shone on your teeth. Its special filter makes the plaque appear as fluorescent blotches.

Dentists have so many different pet ways of instructing patients on the technique of scrubbing off plaque that there's no one universally accepted way. The usual tools are a medium-hard toothbrush, dental floss and a dental stimulator, which is something like a toothpick, but softer. Whether toothpaste need be used is a fielder's choice.

Dental floss (a sort of abrasive string) is for sawing the plaque away between the teeth. The brush is for the usual surfaces that are brushed, and the stimulator is for scraping where the brush visibly failed to do the job, as revealed by the "disclosing" agent.

The point is, you keep working until the plaque is gone, and follow whatever suggestions your dentist makes about details. This is a never-ending war, and should be fought at least once a day if unconditional surrender is what you demand. The plaque can re-form in about 20 hours, but dentists say that skilled removal is only about a five-to-eight-minute job.

Most dentists also like water picks, which squirt hard, needle-thin jets of water into cracks and crevices. They are electric appliances for the bathroom, and

*(Continued on page 45)*



Advanced dental science only confirms the value of cleaning with toothbrush, dental floss and picks. The hardest spots to get at are the most important. A dye can reveal the film laid down by germs, which must be removed to avoid decay.





Opposing Views by Congressmen on The Question . . .

## SHOULD THE U.S. BAN

**E**VERY DAY, nonsmoking Americans traveling aboard airliners, trains and buses are being forced to inhale noxious tobacco smoke—fumes from smoking passengers which cause eye, throat and nose irritation, headache, dizziness and nausea—and ultimately threaten the nonsmoker's health.

The right not to smoke, to breathe unpolluted air, should be basic; for this reason—early in 1971—I introduced the Nonsmokers Relief Act, and reintroduced the measure this January 3rd, the opening day of the new 93rd Congress. This vital piece of legislation does not restrict the right to smoke on public conveyances—that is an individual decision—but would require carriers to assure the rights of the nonsmoker by providing separate seating on planes, trains and buses.

Support for this measure is overwhelming. Thousands of letters in favor have flooded my office from across the nation and even from abroad. The Federal National Clearing House for Smoking and Health released a survey showing 58% of the people favor restricting smoking and 86.5% believe smoking is enough of a hazard "to do something about it." Another survey showed that Long Island Rail Road passengers, by a five-to-one margin, favor riding in a nonsmoking car.

Since the Nonsmokers Relief Act was first introduced, many of the nation's leading air carriers have voluntarily adopted separate seating for smokers and nonsmokers. Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger recently made headlines when he complained after being forced to sit near a cigar smoker on Amtrak's Metroliner.

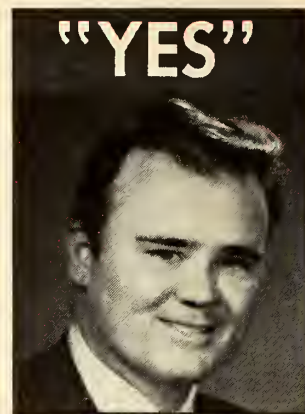
Government is finally moving in the direction of protecting the right of the nonsmoker. California adopted a law requiring air and land carriers to provide sepa-

rate seating on trips originating in that state. And the Interstate Commerce Commission has ordered separate seating on buses (an order now held up by court appeals).

The American Medical Ass'n has called for separate seating, and U.S. Surgeon Gen. Jesse L. Steinfeld has gone so far as to propose an outright ban on smoking in all public places.

On January 9, 1972, the Surgeon General issued a report that secondary smoke inhalation not only caused distress to the nonsmoker but could jeopardize his health, particularly if he suffers from a respiratory ailment.

The case is conclusive: The need to protect the rights of the nonsmoker is clear-cut; support is overwhelming, and the Nonsmokers Relief Act would cause no hardship to either the carriers or the travelers who chose to smoke. Hopefully, with the support of everyone, this badly needed legislation will be passed by the Congress this session.

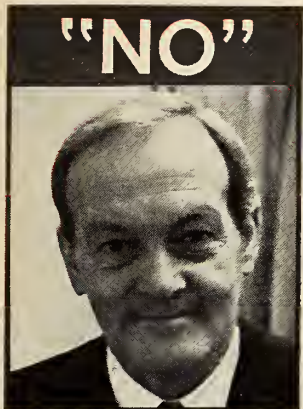


Rep. Bill Young  
(R-Fla.)  
(8th District)

**If you wish to let your Congressman or one of your Senators know how you feel on this**



# SMOKING IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ?



Rep. Richardson Preyer  
(D-N.C.)  
(6th District)

**O**NE THING is certain—smoking causes controversy. Especially the kind that produces more heat than light.

Few of us argue with the principle that the government has a responsibility to alert its citizens to any danger to their health just as it does to protect them against all dangers to their security.

The need for responsible labeling of tobacco products is long since demonstrated, and necessary legislation in that area has been supported by most Americans including the tobacco industry.

But the proposal to ban smoking on interstate transportation is a perfect example of leaving the light and being overcome by the heat.

First, it is contended that smoking on public transportation is a safety hazard. However, the Federal Aviation Administration found no hazard associated with smoking on aircraft. The Federal Highway Administration found no evidence that smoking ever caused a bus accident. And the question has never even been raised about smoking on trains.

Second, it is charged that smoking is a threat to the health of nonsmoking passengers. But none of the seven reports on smoking and health which have been issued by the U.S. Public Health Service between 1964 and 1973 cited smoking as a hazard to nonsmokers. Nor did Congressional hearings on smoking and health

in 1969 and 1972.

On the other hand, a joint HEW-FAA study of tobacco smoke concentration on aircraft determined it is not a hazard to nonsmoking passengers. Indeed, a German scientist recently reported the results of two large-scale experiments and concluded: "It cannot be proven that non-smokers are in danger, as has been claimed."

So the proposed ban comes to rest on the contention that smoking is annoying to nonsmokers. Even if true, "annoyance" alone is hardly the basis for a federal law revoking the personal liberties of millions of men and women.

An American Medical Association official put it very well: "Smoking may be offensive to certain people but so is an alcoholic breath, a sweating body, an unkempt figure, a crying baby, or an undisciplined child. . . If you ban smoking then will you ban these other annoyances. . . ?"

This proposal is just one more instance of a tendency to protect free people from themselves and from the imagined as well as the real hazards of their environment until we are all as safe as white mice in a sterile laboratory.

*Richardson Preyer*



issue, fill out the "ballot" and mail it to him. ➡

I have read in The American Legion Magazine for March the arguments in PRO & CON: Should The U.S. Ban Smoking In Public Transportation?

IN MY OPINION THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IS:

YES ☐ NO ☐

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

You can address any Representative c/o U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515; any Senator c/o U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.





# The Seabees in WW2

With a veneer of military training and a cry of "Can Do!" they wowed themselves and the world.

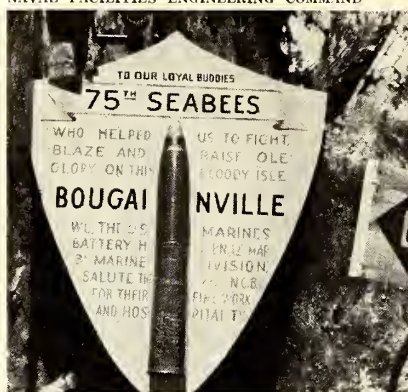
By HARVEY ARDMAN

**T**HE SEABEES of WW2 were some of the unlikeliest sailors ever to join the Navy. They were overaged, non-conformist and underdisciplined. Few of them knew a belaying pin from a capstan. Yet it takes nothing away from the great tradition of the Army Corps of Engineers to say that before WW2 was over the Seabees had made themselves a unique reputation as military engineers.

The Army engineers may not even want any part of the Seabees' WW2 reputation for un military wheeling and dealing. Be that as it may, before the war was over the Seabees hacked their

way through thousands of miles of coral and jungle. They built the incredible naval-base and air-base cities that led to victory in the Pacific. They manned the pontoon causeways in Allied landings in

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND



A Marine battery's tribute to the Seabees on Bougainville island in the Solomons.

Italy and piloted the barges that carried supplies ashore in Normandy.

They started at Bora-Bora, in the Society Islands, during the height of the Japanese advance, where they built the refueling base that allowed our naval forces to contest Japan's in the Battle of the Coral Sea. Soon after, they built a bomber strip at Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides, while the Japanese tried to do the same thing at Guadalcanal, about 800 miles away. The Seabees won that race and our planes hit the Japanese field even before it was finished.

In the summer of 1944, after the Marines took Tinian, the Seabees began one of their biggest, fastest jobs—building the world's largest air base for B-29's so they could strike the Japanese homeland 1,500 miles away. At two main fields the Seabees built six runways, each a mile and a half long, with 29 miles of con-

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND



The complex around Guam's Apra harbor, previously inhabited. The Seabees threw up similar establishments where no city ever was





All in the day's work. The 76th Seabees haul a 30-ton boulder to help make Apra's two miles of breakwater.

necting taxiways and hardstands for 626 planes. They also built two smaller airstrips; nearly 1,000 buildings; miles of roads, fuel and ammo storage dumps, and all the necessary utility systems. More than 11 million cubic yards of earth and coral were moved.

Seabees have done bigger things, but all the runways on Tinian except one were built in less than eight weeks.

The Seabees were a legend in their own day. They built, they fought when necessary and they disregarded the rules when their common sense told them to. Their ability to "procure" supplies, to

make useful equipment out of junk, and to provide themselves with some of the comforts of home on WW2's beaches or in its jungles is the stuff fables are made of. And they did encores in Korea and Vietnam.

They built more than 400 advance bases in the Pacific and in the Atlantic during WW2, some of them accommodating tens on tens of thousands of people. They were in every major amphibious operation conducted by American fighting forces, including the crossing of the Rhine.

It would be easy to list page after page

of Seabee construction feats. Nobody who wasn't there can imagine the size, scope and completeness of such Pacific bases as Finschhafen, Manus, Guam or Ulithi. Very large bays were turned into multi-base, military metropolitan areas, such as Milne Bay (New Guinea) and Leyte Gulf (Philippines). But mere description of the Seabees' works will never capture what went into creating some of them. Let's let a Seabee do that—Commander H. Roy Whittaker, of the 24th Seabees.

On July 1, 1943, after 11 months of consolidation at Guadalcanal, U.S. forces





Seabees haul landing craft to the Rhine for Patton's armored crossing (left) and (right) make a treadway across the Rhine near the Remagen bridgehead.

CONTINUED

## The Seabees in WW2

were headed up the "slot" of the Solomons toward the big Japanese air force base at Munda, on New Georgia Island. The landing was to be at nearby Rendova in pouring rain, which was standard weather in that area. The first Marine landing had pretty well taken care of the Japanese on Rendova but not on Munda. Now, all that had to be done was to nail down the beachhead. The only obstacles were nature, Japanese guns and planes on nearby Munda and snipers left on Rendova. Here's how Commander Whitaker described things, as quoted by William Bradford Huie, in his book about the Seabees, "Can Do!" (E.P. Dutton Co., N.Y. 1944).

"Where we landed, the soil was unbelievably marshy. A swampy coconut grove lay just back of the beach and we had to cut a road through there. Guns had to be transported from our beach over to West Beach so that shells could be hurled across the narrow strip of water into the Jap positions at Munda. And still that rain poured. . . .

"All day long, we sweated and swore, and worked to bring the heavy stuff ashore and hide it from Jap bombers. Our mesh, designed to 'snowshoe' vehicles over soft mud, failed miserably. Even our biggest tractors bogged down in the muck. The men ceased to look like men. They looked like slimy frogs working in some prehistoric ooze. As they sank to their knees, they discarded their clothes.

"The Japs were still sniping, but in spite of this, the men began felling the coconut palms, cutting them into 12-foot lengths and corrugating the road. Our traction-treaded vehicles could go over these logs, but the spinning wheels of a

truck would send the logs flying and the truck would bury itself. To pull the trucks out, we lashed a bulldozer to a tree, then dragged the trucks clear with the dozer's winch. . . .

"When night came, we had unloaded six ships . . . but the mud was about to lick us. Foxholes filled with water as rapidly as they could be dug. The men rolled their exhausted, mud-covered bodies in tents and slept in the mud.

"The next day, at 1330, without warning, the Jap planes came in with bomb bays open. All of us began firing with what guns had been set up, but most of the Seabees had to lie in the open on the beach and take it. The first bombs found

our two main fuel dumps and we had to lie there in the mud and watch our supplies burn while the Japs strafed us. One bomb landed almost under our largest bulldozer and that big machine just reared up like a stallion and disintegrated. Then every man among us thought that his time had come. A five-ton cache of our dynamite went out, exploding the eardrums of the men nearest it.

"I'll never forget the scene on the beach. In our outfit, two of our best officers and 21 men were dead. Many more were wounded, others were missing and a number were out of their heads.

(Turn to page 22)

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND



A Seabee-Marine team in Vietnam carries out offloading principles developed in WW2. The floating pontoon causeway was first used effectively in WW2 Sicily.





ENIWETOK. The firing had hardly stopped when Seabees started building the base, improving the anchorage and (above) making bomber strip of crushed coral. Below, in a few days planes operate from half the strip while Seabees widen it.





## The Seabees in WW2

Our galley equipment, most of our supplies and all the men's seabags and personal belongings were destroyed.

"'Okay, men,' I yelled, 'we got nothing left but what we got on, so let's get back to work.'"

"By the morning of the fourth day, we had opened the road to West Beach, but what a road it was. We had literally snaked those big 155s [guns to fire at Munda] through two miles of mud and the Marines began setting them up. Our men had been under constant strain for 90 hours. At least 50 of them were running high temperatures. They could only jump between gasoline drums and powder when the Japs came over. And the beach, as always, was a potential torch—

susceptible to nervous collapse under bombing.

"By the sixth day, the 155s were pouring shells into Munda almost incessantly and we had the supply road open, but our position seemed more impossible than ever. None of us could remember anything except mud and bombs. The rains seemed to get heavier. But somehow, the men kept working."

The air raids and rains continued, but Whittaker's Seabees did their jobs. Finally, U.S. planes started to provide effective air cover and things improved. Later, the Japanese were chased out of Munda and the Seabees went in to build a large airfield there.

Usually, the Seabees came ashore immediately after the first assault waves of a Pacific landing. The first main job was to unload supply ships and organize

telephone, power, water and sewage systems, land and water taxi services—and even vegetable gardens. In the Philippines, they often built or repaired native schools and housing wrecked by earlier fighting.

They built bases in the United Kingdom, Iceland, Newfoundland, Bermuda, the Caribbean, Panama, South America, Alaska, the Hawaiian Islands, Midway, Wake, Guam, the Philippines, Samoa and on countless other Pacific Islands.

The Seabees were construction men first and soldiers second—the cream of America's construction workers with a veneer of military training. Most were volunteers, absorbed into our nation's fighting forces with the close cooperation of labor unions, to which about 80% of the Seabees belonged.

Their motto was *Construimus, batimur* (we build, we fight). Their favorite definition of themselves was: "A Seabee is a soldier in a sailor's uniform with Marine training, doing civilian work at WPA wages." They were sometimes called "pick and shovel sailors." They had a Paul Bunyanish reputation for getting things done under the worst conditions imaginable. In practice, they shucked their Latin motto. "Can do!" became their slogan.

Once in the service, the men continued to practice their trade, though hardly at union wages or under stateside conditions. They served everywhere, but their main stomping ground was the Pacific. About 82% of them served there, some after duty in Europe or Africa. The 9th Seabee Battalion began its overseas career in Iceland and finished up the war in Tinian, in the Marianas, building and maintaining the B-29 airstrips. The 70th served in Africa and Sicily; then moved to the Pacific in time to serve on Guam, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. The 81st ranged from Falmouth, England, to Utah Beach and Paris, then Eniwetok, Ulithi and Okinawa. The 146th traveled from Iceland to Okinawa, with a detour to Omaha Beach in Normandy.

No short description can hope to tell the whole story of the Seabees, but here is a brief look at them.

The official name was Naval Construction Battalion. From the "C.B." of Construction Battalion, the word Seabee was coined. A semi-comic nautical honeybee in flight—carrying a hammer, wrench and machine gun and wearing a sailor hat—was devised as a symbol.

Until shortly before the Pearl Harbor raid there were no Seabees. The Army had long had its professional engineers, in peace or combat. But until WW2, the Navy had had no occasion to keep a large corps of land-based engineers to serve overseas in war. The principal overseas naval bases in earlier wars had been the civilized ports of allied nations.

(Continued on page 38)

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND



"'Showery weather'" at 14th Seabees' chow hall, Guadalcanal. It was worse when such weather accompanied assault landings under fire, as it often did.

with ammunition, Diesel oil and gasoline everywhere. To move the inflammable stuff back into the storage areas, the men had to emplace themselves in the mud in bucket-brigade fashion. For hours, they'd work that way, sinking deeper into the mud each time they handled a package. And still the rain poured.

"Late that afternoon, from over on the West Beach, the Marines opened up on Munda with 155s. Our men stopped work and cheered almost insanely. No group of men had ever endured more in order for guns to begin firing.

"... Our number of psychopathic cases had begun to mount. We had to evacuate ten men who had become hysterical. As men grow physically exhausted, they become more and more

the offloaded supplies—nearly always under fire during the early days of each operation. Then they were asked to repair captured bases and airfields and build new ones—again sometimes under enemy fire. They built huge, armed cities out of jungle or on bare coral or volcanic outcroppings. They built shipbuilding and repair plants; docks, piers, ports and harbors; ammunition depots; post offices; ordnance production facilities; administrative offices; streets and highways; supply depots; theaters; schools and training stations; mess halls; artillery training ranges; bridges; radio stations; hospitals; fleet operating bases; fuel depots; barracks and officers' housing; drydocks; railroads, etc. They operated many of the facilities they built—



# NEWSLETTER

A DIGEST OF EVENTS WHICH  
ARE OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO YOU

APRIL 1973

## MOVE TO REDUCE COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS IS FORESTALLED:

In February a bid by the Veterans Administration to revise downward its Schedule for Rating Disabilities for many service-connected veterans, thus substantially reducing benefit payments to severely disabled vets, was averted by the combined quick action and outcry of the Congress, The American Legion and other veterans organizations. . . The President ordered the proposals withdrawn for further intensive study. . . Coming at a time when U.S. troops were returning from Vietnam and POW's were being released, the cutbacks were ill-timed and ill-advised. . . Originally billed as a way to trim \$160 million from the federal budget and help combat rising inflation, the blow would have landed hardest on those least able to bear it—the severely disabled and handicapped Vietnam era veterans. . . Though the proposals would nominally have applied to all veterans with similar disabilities, practically speaking it would have affected only Vietnam era veterans, some Korean War veterans and others who had received benefits for less than 20 years. . . Benefits paid for longer than that period of time are frozen and cannot be reduced. . . To block any future unilateral cuts by the VA, Chmn Vance Hartke of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and Chmn W.J. Bryan Dorn of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs both introduced similar legislation in their respective Houses to require Congressional approval before any future changes in VA disability benefits can be made. . . The Legion—which had a Special Committee studying the proposed revisions—was continuing to monitor the situation and stood ready to testify at any hearings held on the matter.

## LEGION PETITIONS CONGRESS FOR RELIEF FROM HIGH POSTAL RATES:

The Legion's Annual National Convention in Chicago, Aug. 1972, adopted a resolution seeking relief from excessive postal rate increases for The American Legion Magazine. . . Increases in postal rates for second-class, non-profit publications—which

began with the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970—are scheduled to be phased into operation until 1980 and have already started to weigh heavily. . . For example, in 1967 the Legion Magazine's mailing bill was \$142,000 annually. . . In 1972, it shot up to \$313,000 and will continue up to over \$372,000 for this year. . . By 1980, it will cost almost \$1 million annually just to deliver this magazine into the mailboxes of Legionnaires, based upon the same amount of membership as now exists. . . That's not taking into account increased labor and other unplanned cost factors which could further raise postal rates. . . Mark this: the figures reflect rates for second-class, non-profit mailing publications.

The deaths of Life, Look and other publications have been partly attributed to rapidly rising postal rates—before the highest of the phased rates have even been put into effect! . . . If huge national circulation publications with large staffs able to generate great gobs of advertising are forced to count postal costs as severely detrimental to their ability to function, how then can this magazine with its limited advertising base hope to survive?

Obviously, there are only two courses. . . One is to obtain relief from excessive postal rates by action of Congress. . . Traditionally, non-profit publications have always been accorded preferential rates because they present beneficial information to the public. . . The other course is to quietly pay the ever increasing postal rates until the day the magazine can no longer function and must join the graveyard of dead publications. . . The American Legion Magazine is today one of the oldest, continuously published, general interest, mass magazines left in the U.S. . . Each Legionnaire who pays his dues, gets his annual subscription to the magazine as a condition of membership. . . If the magazine dies, he gets that much less for his dues payment and loses the only link he has with his national organization. . . He will thus miss (1) the feature articles sparked by ideas contained in the mandates he and his comrades adopted at Legion conventions and (2) the news of national



## VETERANS NEWSLETTER

interest to Legionnaires and all veterans.

It doesn't stop there. . . In addition to the roughly 2,700,000 Legionnaires affected if this magazine ceases to publish due to high postal costs, there are some 800,000 Auxiliary members who probably will not be receiving their National News. . . Nor will 1,300,000 copies of Legion department newspapers continue to fill mail sacks. . . That's 4,800,000 publications monthly (57,600,000 annually) that won't be dispensing news and other information on state and national levels. . . The inevitable follows: effective communication is throttled, membership dwindles because of lack of contact and the organization eventually dies because there's practically no exchange of ideas and information. . . Freedom of the press is hardly free, but the cost shouldn't be so high that there's no press left to function. . . The very existence of The American Legion as an organization is definitely at stake.

Here's what some Legion departments around the nation have to say about the effect on their publications. . . From Clayton Starr, Public Relations Director, Dep't of Ohio: "The January 1973 circulation of the Ohio Legion News was 124,736 and the cost of mailing was \$535.04. This was 55% more than the cost of the June 1972 issue, the one just prior to the July 1972 postal rate increase. By 1980, we estimate the cost—all other factors being equal—at between \$1,600 to \$2,100 per month." From Mrs. Doyne Keyser, Sec'y-Treasurer, California Legion Auxiliary: "We mailed 36,087 pieces in January at a cost of \$148.43 for postage. In figuring the rates, our projected cost for the same number of pieces in four more years would be \$369.35, a 249% increase!" From Frank Momsen, Dep't Adjutant of Minnesota: "Present circulation of The Minnesota Legionnaire is 115,000 copies with total costs last year for mailing at \$11,210. The projected cost of mailing these copies out in 1980 would be \$35,000." From Dan Burkhardt, Dep't Adjutant of Maryland: "If they (the planned phase increases) go through, they will just about wipe out our department newspaper. Since we believe our newspaper is one of the great factors in our continued membership drive and service capability, this will be an extremely serious blow!"

Basically, the item hardest to bear

is the 1.5¢ per piece charge. . . Relief from that would contribute greatly to the chances that this magazine and other similar non-profit publications could continue to serve readers. . . As Veterans Newsletter went to press, the Legion was working to get legislation introduced in both Houses of Congress aiming toward that purpose. . . Other bills, substantially the same, have also been introduced. . . It's hard to believe that the Congress, which found a need to create preferential postal rates for non-profit publications (and which also chartered The American Legion some 54 years ago), would allow excessive postal rates to help cause the demise of these types of publications. . . Affected also are religious, labor, agricultural and other non-profit periodicals.

Write your Senator or Congressman, or the Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees on Post Offices and Civil Service in Washington, D.C., to urge support of measures providing relief for second-class, non-profit publications.

### LEGISLATION SOUGHT TO RAISE VA PENSION AND INCOME LIMITS:

The American Legion has received thousands of letters and phone calls from around the nation protesting the loss or reduction of VA pension benefits suffered by many pensioners due to recent increases in Social Security and other retirement type incomes. . . The boosts were meant to help offset the dollar loss in purchasing power but Congressional inability to enact legislation last year to protect VA pensioners resulted in a put-it-in-one-pocket, take-it-out-of-the-other situation that perplexes those affected. . . Last year, the Legion had proposals before Congress which sought to avert or soften the adverse effects of that 20% Social Security increase. . . Again, in this 93rd Congress, the Legion has a bill which would seek (1) to increase pension by about 15% (2) to increase annual income limitations by \$400 and restructure monthly rates payable (3) increase amounts to veterans with more than one dependent (4) increase the payment of disability pension by \$25 monthly when the veteran attains age 72 and (5) increase annual unearned income ceilings from \$2,000 to \$2,600 for a child or children where no widow is eligible.



APRIL, 1973

## Legion Leader's Statement on Vietnam War Cease-fire Pact

Nat'l Cmdr Matthews voices Legion gratitude for end of Vietnam War; expresses joy at release of POW's and suggests dignified homecoming plans; hopes MIA men will soon be accounted for; urges national unity.

The cease-fire agreement ending United States participation in the Vietnam War—the longest war this nation has ever engaged in—went into effect January 27, 1973. With it American fighting troops began to leave South Vietnam for home and POW's held by Viet Cong forces and North Vietnam were on their way back to freedom.

Millions of words have been published and spoken about this war and perhaps millions more are still to come. But no statement was more appropriate than that made by National Commander Joe L. Matthews of The American Legion as soon as the news was released that the hostilities were terminating for U.S. forces.

"The longest war in America's his-

tory has now been brought to a conclusion. It has been a war that has sharply divided the American people—and we are grateful for the efforts of President Nixon in ending our involvement in it." (See box next page for letter from Cmdr Matthews to Pres. Nixon on the cease-fire.)

"There are no words to express our joy at the news that our prisoners of war are to be released. We sincerely hope that information will be furnished in order to insure that all those missing in action will be accounted for.

"American Legionnaires everywhere have worked and prayed for this moment, and on their behalf, I urge all Americans to put aside their differences over a controversial war, and unite in

a massive outpouring of gratitude and welcome for these men who have suffered so much. We are grateful for their courage and fortitude in the face of the most extreme adversity. We welcome them back from the darkness of their captivity, and we of The American Legion are prepared to help them in any way we can.

"The American Legion is particularly concerned for the men who have been listed as missing in action. We have maintained a close relationship with the National League of Families of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action and we know the anguish of uncertainty to which these people have been subjected for all too long.

"I know I speak for American Legionnaires everywhere in urging all Americans to reconcile their differences, and unite behind the President and the Congress in the massive effort needed to realign priorities in this country of ours. We now have the desired release from the demands of the Vietnam War. Let us pool our talents, our resources and our collective will in seeking solutions to the critically urgent problems facing our country today.

"And for the sake of our children, our grandchildren and the generations as yet

## "California, Here I Come. . .," Morale Song of the POW's

WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



They were only a handful of men—those returning POW's—but they showed the nation and, indeed the world, that patriotism, loyalty, pride and faith in one's country still count for much, either in captivity or freedom. Almost to a man the POW's reported that those qualities, their training and a belief in religion enabled them to sustain each other during their long days and nights as prisoners of war. The song "California, Here



I Come. . .," softly whistled, was their code, used to buck up each other's spirits. In photo left, a giant C-141 arrives at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines with the first of the POW's. At right, they file off plane and walk red carpet to waiting buses after being greeted and saluting the colors. At Clark, they got medical exams, new clothing and whatever else they needed for the long hop to California—and home.





R. B. FITKIN

President Nixon



JOHN ANDREOLA

Commander Matthews

## Commander Matthews' Letter to President Nixon on Vietnam Ceasefire

January 24, 1973

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of your American Legion comrades, I want to extend heartfelt gratitude for your efforts in concluding the war in Southeast Asia in a manner this and future generations of Americans will find acceptable.

The goal of "peace with honor" has been difficult indeed, especially in the light of the criticism levied by those who would have accepted "peace at any price." Now that the goal has been achieved, the fact that your way was the only way to insure a firm basis for a lasting peace will become obvious to all.

We are especially thankful for the prospect of an early return of our prisoners of war, and we hope for a full accounting of those who are missing. The Legion welcomes the opportunity to help these valiant men who have suffered for so long, and we accept as a continuing challenge the task of providing all possible assistance for them, and for all veterans of this war. I pledge our continuing efforts as well toward the end of insuring for Vietnam veterans the proper degree of gratitude and respect for their military service.

I have urged the nearly four million members of the Legion and its Auxiliary, as I urge all Americans, to unite behind you in the massive effort needed to realign priorities in America. You have our promise of full support as you go about the task of seeking solutions to the many critically urgent problems facing our country.

Sincerely yours,

JOE L. MATTHEWS  
National Commander

unborn, let us jointly resolve to work for a world free of the horror of war."

For three years the National League of Families of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action in Southeast Asia has been occupying offices provided by The American Legion in its Washington Headquarters building and the two organizations have maintained a close liaison. Following conferences with the POW-MIA group, the following recommendations were summarized by National Commander Matthews: "The President, the POW-MIA organization and other agencies of government concerned with the return of the POW's unanimously request that the homecomings, should be handled 'with quiet respect,' and Legion participation should comply with these expressed wishes," he said.

Cmdr Matthews noted that he had pledged to the White House all possible assistance in the welcoming and rehabilitation of the POW-MIA's, and "I ask Legionnaires to make themselves available to serve as required, but otherwise to follow the President's suggestions and low-key the welcome home celebrations. These men want and need privacy with their families to readjust to life following their long imprisonment," he added.

Since circumstances vary from one returnee to another, Cmdr Matthews suggested that any projected Legion participation in homecoming festivities be planned in accordance with these general guidelines proposed by the National League of Families:

1. Any commercial-type welcome home activities for the returnee be dis-

couraged and that the men be welcomed back to their local communities by their fellow citizens in a dignified manner, not in a carnival-type atmosphere.

2. Any welcoming plans should be carefully coordinated with the family to insure: (a) that plans are acceptable to the man and to the family and; (b) that the event is timed so as not to subject the returning POW to too much excitement too soon.

## Veterans and the Job Market

For the last four months of 1972 and through January 1973 the unemployment rate for Vietnam era veterans 20-29 years old was just about the same as for nonveterans in the same age bracket, according to the U.S. Dep't of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Also, says the BLS, veterans' employment for January 1973 was up 420,000 over January 1972, the seasonally adjusted

## Delaware Legion Presents Jobs For Veterans Merit Award



Several awards have recently gone to Rotary International, Dist. No. 763, which embraces Delaware, the Eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia, for its work in the Jobs For Veterans program. Dist. 763 found 365 jobs for veterans out of the 400 it had pledged. In photo above, Garland D. Bloodsworth, Del. Dep't Adj't and Service Officer (r), presents Legion Award of Merit to Jerome C. Weinberg, Governor of Rotary Dist. 763. Mr. Weinberg also accepted a Citation for Meritorious Service from the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and an Award of Merit from Delaware Governor Russell W. Peterson.



jobless rate declined by 2.6 percentage points and the number unemployed was down about 100,000.

The BLS indicates veterans' employment increased for two primary reasons: (1) the improved economic situation and special nationwide efforts to help veterans get jobs and (2) the age composition of the group of veterans affected has changed, reflecting both a tapering off of military discharges and a growing number of veterans who have been out of the service for several years. Thus, a greater proportion of veterans are now age 25-29 where the unemployment rates are lower than for the more recently discharged servicemen in the 20-24 age group. In the fourth quarter of 1972, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.0% for the older veterans compared with 9.3% for the younger men.

Other BLS notes for the fourth quarter of 1972:

- The unemployment rate for black and minority veterans was in the range of 8-15% as compared with 5-9% for white veterans.

- Unemployment rates for both veterans and nonveterans were lowest in the Southern and North Central states.

- About one-fourth of the unemployed veterans had been looking for work for 15 weeks or more.

- For veterans and nonveterans who are not in the labor force, attendance in school is by far the most important reason for neither working nor seeking work.

For all of 1972:

- The number of 20-29 year-old veterans in the civilian labor force averaged 4.2 million, about 490,000 more than in 1971.

- About 22% of black veterans, on the average, worked for federal, state or local governments, compared with 12% of white veterans, partly reflecting preferential hiring programs.

### Legion Awards For Employers

In 1972, 40 employers around the nation were awarded American Legion citations for good employment practices. Awards for hiring handicapped workers went to 19 employers and those for older workers went to 21 employers.

The national awards are made by the Legion's National Economic Commission on a calendar year basis following the recommendation of the department organization of the Legion which nominates employers each year for the National-Hiring-the-Handicapped Award and the National Older Worker Citation.

Handicapped awards are usually made in connection with the annual Employ the Handicapped Week and represent part of the Legion's participation in the programs of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handi-

capped. Older worker awards are usually made in conjunction with the Legion's Hire the Older Worker Week.

### Handicapped Awards Recipients:

Spring Valley Farms, Gadsden, Ala.; Hawaii Regional Exchange (Pohakuloa PX), Hilo, Ha.; Hoff Lumber Co., Horseshoe Bend, Ida.; American Sanitary Div., Sta-Rite Industries, Inc., Abingdon, Ill.; Morgan Packing Co., Inc., Converse, Ind.; Sioux City Chamber of Commerce, Sioux City, Iowa; Milburn's Shoe Service, Elizabethtown, Ky.; Credit Bureau of Greater Shreveport, Shreveport, La.; Universal Paint Co., Springfield, Mo.; The Placer Hotel, Helena, Mont.; The Sanco Co., Derry, N.H.; Famariss Oil & Refining Co., Hobbs, N.M.; First Nat'l Bank, McAlester, Okla.; Merchants Riverview Delivery & Merchants Leasing, Portland, Ore.; Presbyterian-Univ. of Penn. Medical Center, Phila., Pa.; V-Craft Society Printers, Quezon City, Philippines; E'Con Mills, Inc., Chattanooga, Tenn.; Vermont Furniture Co., Inc., Winooski, Vt.; Pittsburgh Plate Glass Industries, Clarksburg, W. Va.

### Older Worker Awards Recipients:

Peggy's Airport Cafe, Anchorage, Alaska; Moore Business Forms, Albany, Ga.; Stokely-Van Camp, Inc., Emmett, Ida.; G.A.F. Corp., (Bldg Prod. Div.), Joliet, Ill.; Schnacke, Inc., Evansville,

Ind.; Oskaloosa Engineering & Mfg., Oskaloosa, Iowa; Industrial Plastics of Louisville, Inc., Louisville, Ky.; Krauss Co., New Orleans, La.; Denton Sleeping Garment Mills, Centreville, Mich.; Diamond Tool & Horseshoe Co., Duluth, Minn.; Holly Sugar Corp., Sidney, Mont.; Fimble Door Corp., Nashua, N.H.; Hobbs Municipal Schools, Hobbs, N.M.; Morehead Mills, Inc., Eden, N.C.; Sheyenne Memorial Nursing Home & Manor, Valley City, N.D.; Parker-Hannifin Corp., Wickliffe, O.; Griffin Grocery Co., Muskogee, Okla.; Cascade Forest Products Co., Bend, Ore.; Misi-cordia Hospital Div., Mercy Catholic Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pa.; La Perla Industries, Inc., Paranaque, Rizal, Philippines; Sanger-Harris Dep't Store, Arlington, Tex.; Gold Metal Folding Furniture Co., Racine, Wis.

### 1973 Legion Oratorical Contests

The 1973 National High School Oratorical Contest Finals of The American Legion will be held at Queens College, Charlotte, N.C., on April 12. A total of \$18,000 worth of college scholarships awaits the four final contestants. First place will be worth \$8,000; second place \$5,000; third place, \$3,000 and fourth place, \$2,000.

To get to the finals thousands of high

### The American Legion's Biggest Posts

Here are the 31 posts of The American Legion with membership of 2,000 or more members as of December 31, 1972.

POST	CITY	DEPT	MEMBER-SHIP
1. Lincoln Post No. 3	Lincoln	Nebraska	7,110
2. Richfield Post No. 435	Minneapolis	Minnesota	6,767
3. Wayne E. Marchand Post No. 28	Okinawa	Hawaii	5,797
4. Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham Post No. 1	Denver	Colorado	4,594
5. Omaha Post No. 1	Omaha	Nebraska	4,437
6. Westphal Post No. 251	Robbinsdale	Minnesota	4,183
7. Lowe-McFarlane Post No. 14	Shreveport	Louisiana	4,163
8. Alonzo Cudworth Post No. 23	Milwaukee	Wisconsin	3,669
9. Gilbert C. Grafton Post No. 2	Fargo	North Dakota	3,503
10. Hanford Post No. 5	Cedar Rapids	Iowa	3,096
11. Adam Plewacki Post No. 799	Buffalo	New York	3,045
12. M. M. Eberts Post No. 1	Little Rock	Arkansas	3,006
13. East Liberty Post No. 5	Pittsburgh	Pennsylvania	3,005
14. Nicholson Post No. 38	Baton Rouge	Louisiana	2,802
15. Saigon Post No. 34	Vietnam	Hawaii	2,694
16. Harvey W. Seeds Post No. 29	Miami	Florida	2,667
17. Los Angeles Police Post No. 381	Los Angeles	California	2,624
18. Hickory Post No. 48	Hickory	North Carolina	2,566
19. Parkville Post No. 183	Parkville	Maryland	2,555
20. Lloyd Spetz Post No. 1	Bismarck	North Dakota	2,406
21. Nashville Post No. 5	Nashville	Tennessee	2,311
22. Memphis Post No. 1	Memphis	Tennessee	2,261
23. Oklahoma City Post No. 35	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	2,214
24. Austin Post No. 91	Austin	Minnesota	2,146
25. Hammond Post No. 3	Kingsport	Tennessee	2,111
26. Carson-Wilson Post No. 1	Tulsa	Oklahoma	2,110
27. Commonwealth Edison Post No. 118	Chicago	Illinois	2,091
28. William G. Carroll Post No. 26	Minot	North Dakota	2,074
29. Luke-Greenway Post No. 1	Phoenix	Arizona	2,051
30. Lafayette Post No. 11	Lafayette	Indiana	2,042
31. James Dickey Post No. 23	Portsmouth	Ohio	2,015



school orators around the nation compete in elimination contests at various levels and for various prizes, depending on the state. A \$500 scholarship from the national organization also goes to each department champion who participates in the 12 regional contests that precede the four sectional contests and the national trial.

Here are the sites for the Regional Contests to be held April 2: *Regional 1*, Marlboro H.S., Marlboro, Mass.; *Regional 2*, Mt. Saint Mary Academy, Newburgh, N.Y.; *Regional 3*, Memorial Auditorium, Washington Crossing, Pa.; *Regional 4*, Oakton H.S., Vienna, Va.; *Regional 5*, Tuscaloosa H.S., Tuscaloosa Ala.; *Regional 6*, Louisiana State Univ., Knapp Hall, Baton Rouge, La.; *Regional 7*, Manual H.S., Peoria, Ill.; *Regional 8*, Central Missouri State Univ., Warrensburg, Mo.; *Regional 9*, Bismarck Jr. College, Bismarck, N.D.; *Regional 10*, Casper College, Casper, Wyo.; *Regional 11*, West H.S., Billings, Mont.; *Regional 12*, Lowell H.S., San Francisco, Cal.

Here are the sites for the Sectional Contests to be held April 9: *Sectional A*, Keene State College, Keene, N.H.; *Sectional B*, Woodward Academy, College Park, Ga.; *Sectional C*, Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse, Marshalltown, Iowa; *Sectional D*, Lincoln H.S., Lincoln, Neb.

Free admission to the public.

### Legionnaire's Sports Project

Gleason, Tenn. (pop. 1,349), has a supervised recreation program which provides activity for everyone from age 5 to 50. Legionnaire Dudley Sanders, long time Park Director, designed the program and believes it is a worthwhile community project for almost any post.

Along with the regular playground activities, 24 organized athletic teams practiced and played regularly each week last summer. All 24 groups had team jerseys or uniforms. Seven of the teams were made up of girls and women. Probably the outstanding feature of the Gleason program is its swimming activities. As many as 104 swimmers took part—and Gleason does not have a swimming pool.

"The Gleason program started in 1953," says Sanders, "and has been operating ever since. Four to six paid supervisors are used and an almost unbelievable fact is that the program is usually self-supporting."

Any post desiring information may write to Dudley Sanders, Box 191, Gleason, Tenn. 38229. Further information from Sanders: "Gleason is the home of **Post 166**, one of Tennessee's best!"

### Kansas Bowlers in 26th Annual

With over \$6,000 in prizes and trophies at stake, the **Kansas Legion** opened

its 26th Annual Bowling Tournament at Junction City. Matches were played over four weekends in January with 645 Legionnaires competing in singles and on 129 doubles teams.

Dep't Cmdr Ed Newman rolled the first ball to open the competition after Tournament Chmn Max Fooshee reported all teams ready on time.

The top five team scores after four weekends of play were: Lindsborg Legion #1, 3120; Clay Center Legion #2, 3110; Louisburg Legion #250, 3080; Hill Crest Lanes, Arkansas City, 3078; and First Nat'l Bank, Hoisington, 3049.

Leading the doubles teams were R. Spurrier-R. Bigler, Clay Center, 1344; C. Elder-V. Christosfersen, Leavenworth, 1335; L. Mosiman-V. Lowden, Peabody, 1331; a tie at 1330 between W. Heller-D. Humpert, Abilene, and J. King-M. Glantz, Winfield.

R. Peterson, Lindsborg, led the singles bowlers with 757, followed by V. Hugins, Olathe, 718; U. Grant, McPherson, 707; K. Crowther, Durham, 701; and G. Hoytal, Shawnee, 694.

In the All-Events the top five were A. Ellwood, Marquette, 1970; Grant, 1969; B. Stoff, Emporia, 1968; W. Halsey, Anthony, 1957; and B. Ingersoll, Paola, 1949.

Top scorer in all events (scratch) and winner of the Dr. Elfert Trophy was Bill Stoff, Emporia, with 1752.

### BRIEFLY NOTED

Approximately 210 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and their families attended a buffet reception in their honor in the Washington Headquarters of The American Legion. Nat'l Cmdr Joe L. Matthews received the Medal of Honor men in the Hall of Flags. The men and their families were in Washington as personal guests of President Nixon during the inaugural festivities.



California aids Heritage teaching.

Jay Williams, second from left in photo, an American History instructor at Solana Beach, Calif., is congratulated on his selection to attend the annual Valley Forge Workshop Program in August at Valley Forge, Pa. Legionnaires are, l. to rt., Dean Witty, Dep't Program Chairman; Post Cmdr Henry Collins, **Oceanside Post 146**; and Post Cmdr Jeff

Weible, **San Dieguito Post 416**. The two California posts combined their resources to sponsor Williams, who will, it is felt, improve his ability to explain American Heritages to his students. **Dep't of California** hopes to send 20-30 teachers to Valley Forge this year.



Legion-sponsored boxing at Valley Forge

**The Philadelphia, Pa., Legion County Council** sponsored an amateur boxing show at Valley Forge Gen. Hosp. Cmdr Charlie Burns made the arrangements through David Zinkoff, of the Philadelphia 76ers Basketball Club, who is the Veterans Events Coordinator for Philadelphia, and who has received a letter from President Nixon congratulating him on his 25 years of service. In the photo, from left, are J. Harrington, Senior Timekeeper for the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission; W. Harper, 160-pound bout winner; referee L. Robertson; runner-up M. Franklin. Zinkoff's head is barely visible between winner and referee.

**The Dep't of Maine's Children and Youth Committee** assisted in the creation of a new statewide Association for Children With Learning Disabilities. Daniel Lambert, Dep't Chairman, served as one of the incorporators for the Association, which was formed after five years of preparation on the part of the Legion and other groups. A Legion/Auxiliary-sponsored conference will tackle the development of community resources for the program.

**The Louisiana Legion**, during its Mid-Winter Conference, recognized the Louisiana representatives in the 1972 Olympic Games by awarding them plaques which read in part: "For meritorious service rendered to his country and in recognition of outstanding achievement acquired in his performance in sports events during the XXIV Olympic Games held in Munich, Germany."

**Cortland Co., N.Y.** Legionnaires are supporting the first annual New York State Easter Seal bowling tournament, (Continued on page 30)



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**You must get professional results  
—or money refunded!**

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Please rush me the following:

- ☐ 1 PAINT SPRAYER for \$12.98 *plus* \$2.00 postage  
☐ 2 PAINT SPRAYERS for \$25.00 *plus* \$3.00 postage

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (New York residents  
add sales tax)

Enclosed is ☐ check ☐ money order.

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(please print)

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Bowling tourney to aid Easter Seal fund.

being held at Cort-Lanes, Cortland, for 14 weekends, March 31 through July 1. The ABC-WIBC sanctioned event is co-sponsored by the Cortland Co. Easter Seal Committee and the Genesee Brewing Co. Proceeds will be used to expand services to the handicapped served by Easter Seals. In the photo, l. to rt., are Mrs. Florence Fitzgerald, Regional Administrator, N.Y. State Easter Seal Society; Alfred Bellardini, Cortland County Cmdr; Joseph Prezioso, 6th Dist. Bowling chmn; and Mark Baldwin, Cortland Co. Easter Seal Child. The guaranteed first prize is \$2,000 and the minimum prize ratio is one for every ten entries (more if entries permit). Entry fee is \$35 per five men, five women, or five mixed teams. Entry blanks are available at all Legion posts, bowling lanes, and at tournament HQ, 22½ Main St., Cortland, N.Y. 13045.

## POSTS IN ACTION



Post 47, Mont., discovers a WW1 memento.

Memorabilia dating back to WW1 turned up recently at **Post 47, Hamilton, Mont.** Post Cmdr Lester Tucker (left in photo) came upon a roll of dusty old posters that were used for recruiting efforts and to drum up interest in Liberty Bond drives in the 1917-18 era. Shown at right holding a poster is AMHC Lou

Watson, area U.S. Navy recruiter, who verified that the posters were authentic and not later duplications. Posters of this nature are genuine collector's items, the men said, and efforts will be made to preserve and display them permanently at the Legion hall.

**Post 1040, Delmar, N.Y.** named Lois Mannheimer as Teacher of Americanism Month. She arranged for a symbol of mourning to be attached to the staffs of wall-hung flags which could not be half-staffed, in the classrooms, out of respect for the recently deceased ex-Presidents, Truman and Johnson.

When many members of **Post 29, Miami, Fla.**, found themselves unable to donate blood as they had been in the habit of doing, they authorized their Post Blood Bank chairman, James Ross, to solicit donations from ROTC cadets at the Univ. of Miami. They allocated \$500 to pay each cadet the current fee of \$10 per pint. "Their response," says Post Cmdr W. Neumayer, "was overwhelming, and enabled our post to donate 50 pints."

**Edinburg, Ind., Post 233**, along with Leonard Ford Sales, gave two college scholarships of \$250 each. This is the sixth year the scholarship awards have been given.

**Post 397, Hellertown, Pa.**, held a Peace Celebration dinner on January 27 to recognize the signing of the Vietnam War peace treaty. Approximately 300 attended.

The Emergency Services Council, Medford, **Ore.**, composed of 25 Jackson County agencies who aid people in distress, received a gift from **VA Domiciliary Post 192, of White City**: an adjustable, attendant-operated hospital bed. From the left in the photo are W. Nebergall, Post Finance Officer; B. Bailey, Adjutant; D. Kettles, Public Welfare service worker; N. Ulseth, Post Cmdr; and P. Telerski, ehmn, Emergency Services Council. Legionnaires added two bedside tables to the gift.



Hospital gift from Post 192, Oregon



At A.L. Press Club of New Jersey Awards dinner, PDCmdr Frank Piampiano holds Outstanding Publication trophy won by Livingston Post 201's The Livingston Safair; Editor Sal Quintana holds Editor-of-the-Year plaque which he also won. At right is Nat'l VCmdr Albert J. Moeller.



Post 173, Whitewater, Wis., presented all of its 60 WW1 members with Life Memberships and silver cards; 33 of the men are shown in these two photos.

**Post 678, Nescopeck, Pa.**, awarded the American Legion Medal of Valor to three Pennsylvania Nat'l Guardsmen of Luzerne County for heroism during Hurricane Agnes. The awards were presented in Gov. Milton Shapp's office to Sgts. Gary Sager and Guy Finucan and S/Sgt. Dwight Kotansky by Post Cmdr  
(Continued on page 32)

## American Legion Life Insurance Month Ending Jan. 31, 1973

Benefits paid Jan. 1-Jan. 31, 1973.....	\$ 144,165
Benefits paid since April 1958.....	13,759,555
Basic Units in force (number).....	118,485
New Applications approved since Jan. 1, 1973.....	666
New Applications rejected.....	131

American Legion Life Insurance is an official program of The American Legion, adopted by the National Executive Committee, 1958. It is decreasing term insurance, issued on application to paid-up members of The American Legion subject to approval based on health and employment statement. Death benefits range from \$40,000 (four full units up through age 29) (25 in Ohio) in decreasing steps with age to termination of insurance at end of year in which 75th birthday occurs. Available up to four full units at a flat rate of \$24 per unit a year on a calendar year basis, pro-rated during the first year at \$2 a month per unit for insurance approved after January 1. Underwritten by two commercial life insurance companies, the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California and United States Life Insurance Co. in the City of New York. American Legion Insurance Trust Fund is managed by trustees operating under the laws of Missouri. No other insurance may use the full words "American Legion." Administered by The American Legion Insurance Division, P.O. Box 5609, Chicago, Illinois 60680, to which write for more details.



# Grass Seed Is For The Birds! Zoysia Saves Time, Work And Money

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! ORDER NOW  
AND GET UP TO 200 PLUGS FREE!**



By Mike Senkiw  
Agronomist

Every year I see people pour more and more money into their lawns. They dig, fertilize and lime. They rake it all in. They scatter their seed and roll and water it.

Amazony is the Trade Mark Registered U.S. Patent Office for our Meyer Z-52 Zoysia Grass.

Birds love it! Seeds which aren't washed away by rain give them a feast. But some seed grows, and soon it's time to weed, water and mow, mow . . . until summer comes to burn the lawn into hay, or crabgrass and diseases infest it.

That's what happens to ordinary grass, but not to Zoysia.

## "MOWED IT 2 TIMES," WRITES WOMAN

For example, Mrs. M. R. Mitter writes me how her lawn ". . . is the envy of all who see it. When everybody's lawns around here are brown from drought ours just stays as green as ever. I've never watered it, only when I put the plugs in . . . Last summer we had it mowed (2) times. Another thing, we never have to pull any weeds—it's just wonderful!"

Wonderful? Yes, Zoysia Grass IS wonderful! Plant it now and like Mrs. Mitter you'll cut mowing by 2/3 . . . never have another weed problem all summer long the rest of your life!

And from Iowa came word that the state's largest Men's Garden Club picked a Zoysia lawn as the "top lawn—nearly perfect" in its area. Yet this lawn had been watered only once all summer up to August!

These represent but 2 of thousands of happy Zoysia owners. Their experiences show that you, too, can have a lawn that stays green and beautiful thru blistering heat, water bans—even drought!

## CUTS YOUR WORK, SAVES YOU MONEY

Your deep-rooted, established Amazony lawn saves you time and money in many ways. It never needs replacement . . . ends re-seeding forever. Fertilizing and watering (water costs money, too) are rarely if ever needed. It ends the need for crabgrass killers permanently. It cuts pushing a noisy mower in the blistering sun by 2/3.

## WEAR RESISTANT

When America's largest University tested 13 leading grasses for wear resistance, such as foot scuffing, the Zoysia (matrella and japonica Meyer Z-52) led all others.

Your Amazony lawn takes such wear as cookouts, lawn parties, lawn furniture, etc. Grows so thick you could play football on it and not get your feet muddy. Even if children play on it, they won't hurt it—or themselves.

## CHOKES OUT CRABGRASS

Thick, rich, luxurious Amazony grows into a carpet of grass that chokes out crabgrass and weeds all summer long! It will NOT winter kill. Goes off its green color after killing frost, regains fresh new beauty every Spring—a true perennial!

## NO NEED TO RIP OUT PRESENT GRASS

Now's the time to order your Zoysia plugs—to get started on a lawn that will choke out crabgrass and weeds all summer long and year after year.

Plug it into an entire lawn or limited "problem areas". Plug it into poor soil, "builder's soil", clay or sandy soils—even salty, beach areas, and I guarantee it to grow!

## PERFECT FOR SLOPES

If slopes are a problem, plug in Amazony and let it stop erosion. Or plug it into hard-to-cover spots, play-worn areas, etc.

## PLUG AMAZOY INTO OLD LAWN, NEW GROUND OR NURSERY AREA

Just set Amazony plugs into holes in ground like a cork in a bottle. Plant 1 foot apart, checkerboard style. Every plug 3 sq. inches.

When planted in existing lawn areas plugs will spread to drive out old, unwanted growth, including weeds. Easy planting instructions with order.

## Your Own Supply of Plug Transplants

Your established turf provides you with Zoysia plugs for other areas as you may desire.

## NO SOD, NO SEED

There's no seed that produces winter-hardy Meyer Z-52 Zoysia. Grass and sod or ordinary grass carries with it the same problems as seed—like weeds, diseases, frequent mowing, burning out, etc. That's why Amazony comes in pre-cut plugs . . . your assurance of lawn success.

## Every Plug

## Guaranteed to Grow

## In Your Area • In Your Soil

- **WON'T WINTER KILL**—has survived temperatures 30° below zero!
- **WON'T HEAT KILL**—when other grasses burn out, Amazony remains green and lovely!

Every plug must grow within 45 days or we replace it free. Since we're hardly in business for the fun of it, you know we have to be sure of our product. Consider the time and money you invest in your lawn and it doesn't pay to struggle with grass that burns out just when you want it most. Order Amazony now and let it spread into thrillingly beautiful turf!

**FREE UP TO 200 PLUGS**  
For Ordering Early!

Order Now For  
Earliest Planting  
In Your Area

100 Plugs plus  
bonus of 10 TOTAL  
of 110 PLUGS **695**

100 plugs and plugger, plus bonus of 20 FREE TOTAL 120 PLUGS <b>995</b>	200 plugs and plugger, plus bonus of 25 FREE TOTAL 225 PLUGS <b>1375</b>	300 plugs and plugger, plus bonus of 50 FREE TOTAL 350 PLUGS <b>1775</b>	1100 plugs and plugger, plus bonus of 200 FREE TOTAL 1300 PLUGS <b>3995</b>
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## Work Less • Worry Less • Spend Less

- Easy To Plant, Easy To Care For
- Perfect For Problem Areas
- Reduces Mowing 2/3
- Chokes Out Crabgrass
- Resists Blight, Diseases And Most Insects
- Stays Green Through Droughts
- Won't Winter Kill
- Laughs At Water Bans

## No Need To Rip Out Your Present Grass Plug In Amazony

**SAVE**

ON PATENTED  
STEP-ON PLUGGER,  
OR GET IT FREE  
WITH LARGER  
ORDERS OF 600 PLUGS OR MORE.

A growth-producing 2-way plugger that saves bending, time, work. Cuts away competing growth at same time it digs holes for plugs. Invaluable for transplanting. Rugged yet so light a woman can use it.

Just set Amazony plugs into holes in ground like a cork in a bottle. (Plant 1 foot apart, checkerboard style.) Easy planting instructions with each order.

Order now for Bonus Plugs and earliest delivery at planting time in your area. Each order is shipped the same day as taken from the soil, shipping charge collect, via most economical means.

To: Mr. Mike Senkiw, Zoysia Farm Nurseries, Dept. 443  
6414 Reisterstown Rd., Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Dear Mr. Senkiw: Please send me the quantity of guaranteed Amazony as checked below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Full size Plugger	<b>\$495</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 100 Plugs plus bonus of 10. TOTAL 110 PLUGS	<b>\$695</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 100 Plugs & Plugger plus bonus of 20 FREE. TOTAL OF 120 PLUGS	<b>\$995</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 200 Plugs plus bonus of 20 FREE. TOTAL OF 220 PLUGS	<b>\$1120</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 200 Plugs & Plugger plus bonus of 25 FREE. TOTAL 225 PLUGS	<b>\$1375</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 300 Plugs & Plugger plus bonus of 50 PLUGS FREE. TOTAL 350 PLUGS	<b>\$1775</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1100 Plugs & Plugger plus bonus of 200 plugs. TOTAL 1300 PLUGS	<b>\$3995</b>				

I Enclose \$..... Check..... M.O.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....

STATE..... ZIP.....



Dennis Kapuschinsky. The three sergeants rescued a State Trooper and a councilman whose motorboat had stalled and was being swept away by the current. The sergeants drove a truck into the water up to the headlights and one of them rescued the two men from the hood of the truck.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**John E. Davis**, Director of the Defense Civil Preparedness Agency and Past Nat'l Cmdr of The American Legion (1966-67), awarded a Dep't of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Medal for his work in heading the nation's civil preparedness program since 1969. The



New honors for PNCmdr John E. Davis

Medal, the highest civilian award given by the Defense Dep't, was presented by retiring Sec'y of Defense Melvin R. Laird, at left in photo. The Director's wife, Pauline, looks on.

## COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to do so. Usually a statement is needed in support of a VA claim.

Notices are run only at the request of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants, using Search For Witness Forms available only from State Legion Service Officers.

**Youskia Naval Base, Japan (Oct. 1953)**—Need information from CS/2 Engle and any other comrades who recall that **Felemizo Aragon** suffered a head injury in a jeep accident and a few days later at a party on base "went crazy" and turned over tables, threw things, and came to in hospital in a straight jacket. Write "CD161, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**USS Kassar Bay (CVE69), San Diego, Calif. (Oct. 19, 1944)**—Need information from S1/6 Oltes, S1/C Hollis and any other comrades who recall that **Edward K. Bryan** had back trouble and a nervous condition aboard ship, Oct. 19, 1944. Write "CD162, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**Navy Radio & Underwater Sound Warehouse (Pearl Harbor Ship Yard 1944)**—Need to hear from Capt Gilbert and from Dr. Edwards, who performed eye surgery on **Andrew James Barka**. Need info, also, from Sanchez (Silver City, N.M.) who twice visited Barka after the operation. Need corroborating information, also, from E. Peru, whom Barka was visiting aboard USS Maryland, in drydock after being hit by Japanese suicide plane. While leaving ship after lights out at 10 p.m., Barka ran into an overhead rail. Peru took Barka to sick bay where latter had seven stitches put in forehead. Need information, also, from any comrades who recall Barka's second injury: On USS AKA-106 during his last six months of duty. Barka was assigned to paint emergency water tank in ship's bottom. His helper dropped a five-gallon can 18 feet which landed on Barka's head. He was taken to sick bay. He has since suffered headaches. Write "CD163, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**780th FA Bn (Korea April 1953)**—Need information from Capt Johnsrud, Col Green and any other comrades who recall that **Clem M. Carlson** went into mental shock and loss of memory after an all-night field artillery mission on howitzer. Write "CD164, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**94th Bomb Gp (Northern Germany April 18, 1945)**—Need information from Wojciechowski, McQuade, O'Leary, Dillard, Garrison and any other comrades who recall that **Delzon I. Dennison** hurt his back when he bailed out over Germany. Write "CD165, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**319th AAF Bomb Gp (over Bologna, Italy July 20, 1944)**—Need information from pilot Marple (of one of the Carolinas) who piloted the B-26 over Bologna from which **Gene A. Lucero** bailed out with the crew and severely injured his back when dragged and tumbled by his chute. Need to hear also from any other comrades who recall this incident. Write "CD166, American Legion Magazine, 1345 Ave. of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019"

**Raymond H. Fields**, of Oklahoma City, Okla., longtime member of The American Legion Magazine Commission, one of four persons honored by the Oklahoma Heritage Assoc. He was given its 1972 Distinguished Service Award. Former publisher of the Guymon Herald, Fields has edited and published several daily and weekly newspapers in Oklahoma. He is a member of the Oklahoma Publishers Assoc.'s Half-Century Club.

Legionnaire **David Borstel**, 80, of Augusta, Ga., given the James H. Parke Achievement Award from the Augusta VA Hospital for giving 20,000 volunteer hours to hospitalized veterans. He has been a volunteer since 1938, fulltime since 1958, and has given more than 24,000 hours of service, sometimes as much as 13 hours a day.

**Wayne Guthrie**, Indiana newspaperman who writes the column, Ringside in Hoosierland, for the Indianapolis News, selected by the 11th Legion District for the Distinguished Citizen Award. The 51-year Legionnaire, a 12-time recipient of Freedoms Foundation Awards, has frequently given voice to Legion viewpoints in his column and public addresses.

**Warren Edward Spahn**, the ninth graduate of American Legion Baseball to be inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N.Y. The winningest left-handed pitcher in the history of the major leagues (he had 363 lifetime victories), Spahn played for South Buffalo, N.Y., American Legion Post 721 prior to his first season of professional baseball in 1940.

**Ray Patterson**, Osage, Iowa, newly appointed to the staff of Legion's Americanism and Children & Youth Div. as an assistant director in the Education

and Scholarship section. He has served as Nat'l Executive Committeeman and as district commander and Dep't vice commander. He recently served on the Nat'l Americanism Commission. Legionnaire Patterson has been associated with the Osage Community Schools for 17 years, most recently as the counselor.

## DEATHS

**David Lawrence**, 84, of Sarasota, Fla., columnist and founder and editor of U.S. News and World Report magazine, apparently of a heart attack. In 1964 at the Legion's Washington Conference, he received the Legion's Journalistic Achievement Award "for 54 years of continuous dedication to American journalism."

**Bert M. Count**, 75, of St. Louis Park, Minn., former aid to Past Nat'l Cmdr Daniel F. Foley (1963-64).

**James M. Caviness**, 77, of Paris, Texas, Past Nat'l Executive Committeeman (1946-48).

**Homer W. McDaniel**, Dunkirk, Ind., Past Dep't Cmdr (1949-50); he was acting Dep't Adjutant in 1944-45.

**Felix W. Goudelock**, 76, of Union, S.C., Past Dep't Adjutant (1929-37).

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

The award of a life membership to a Legionnaire by his Post is a testimony by those who know him best that he has served The American Legion well.

Below are listed some of the previously unpublished life membership Post awards that have been reported to the editors. They are arranged by States or Departments.

**Neal A. Beck**, **David M. Hallyburton**, **Wiley E. Nelson, Sr.**, and **Dominic Rivaldo** (all 1972), Santa Clara, Calif., Post 564.

**Norbertine S. Overhold** (1971), Post 6, Washington, D.C.

**Allyn C. Donaldson** (1966) and **Raymond J. Queenin** (1972), Post 68, Washington, D.C.

**Carroll Layman** (1972), **Winston E. Baumann**, **George Ray Hudson** and **Rembrandt H. Noble** (all 1969), Post 250, Hinsdale, Ill.

**William C. Whalen** (1972), Post 375, Peru, Ill.

**Harold Cleland** (1972), **Vincent L. Decker**, **Herman A. Strauss**, **William C. Stutzriem** (all 1971) and **Paul Benda, Sr.** (1973), Post 600, Chicago, Ill.

**Joseph Beardmore** and **John Milas** (both 1972), Post 1776, Chicago, Ill.

**Emil C. Baumgardt**, **Harry B. Beasey**, **F. Leo Cassman**, **Ralph P. Collier** and **Albert F. Deas** (all 1973), Post 11, Lafayette, Ind.

**Jacob Adams**, **Anton Krebsback**, **Joe Simon**, **John Koenigs** and **Niek Adams** (all 1972), Post 569, Stacyville, Iowa.

**George Baker** (1973), Post 64, Salisbury, Md.

**Joseph Mazur** (1972), **Clifton A. Ross** (1970), and **Russell D. Ward** (1971), Post 108, Cheverly, Md.

**Carl J. Marshall** (1969), Post 114, Milton, Mass.

**William E. Bartels**, **Joseph N. Beaulieu** (both 1973), Post 160, Newburyport, Mass.

**Joseph Bradford**, **Everett F. Cassidy**, **John F. Close**, **Byron MacFarlane** and **Simon Mahajad** (all 1972), Post 164, Carver, Mass.

**Frank Beshai**, **Leo J. Gauvreau**, **Agustus A. Hakala**, **Leslie C. Hopper** and **Walter P. Johnson** (all 1973), Post 204, West Boylston, Mass.

**Elmer O. Campbell, Jr.** and **Henry F. Luscumb** (both 1972), Post 227, Middleton, Mass.

(Continued on page 34)



# Giant TV Antenna

**JUST PLUG INTO ANY OUTLET...  
USES YOUR HOUSE WIRING  
FOR BETTER TV RECEPTION!**

Only **1<sup>98</sup>**



**Uses No Electricity...  
Completely Safe to Use!**

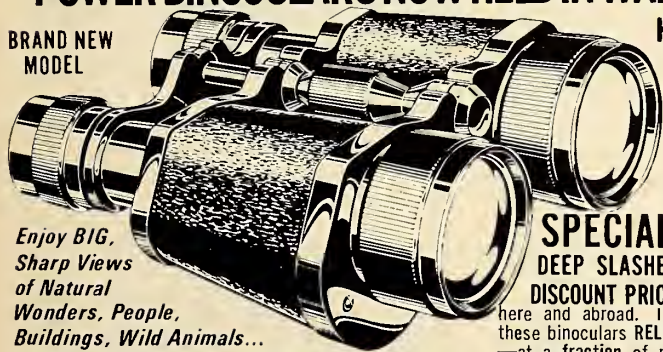
Here is a new electronic invention that will let you tune in every channel in your TV viewing area sharp and clear without the expense of installing a big roof-top antenna . . . and without the inconvenience of having those unsightly rabbit ears cluttering up your living room! This device attaches to your TV set in seconds and plugs into any electrical outlet in your home. This marvel adapts the electrical wiring in your home to work with your TV set as

a **GIANT ANTENNA!** It uses no electric current whatever — 100% safe to use! You'll get great TV reception on all channels you are now receiving with a conventional antenna. Ideal for use with FM radios, too. Full instructions for use are included. Order today! You must be completely satisfied with the sharp, clear TV pictures you get or simply return within 7 days for your money back!

**No. 4250—Giant TV Antenna . . . . 1.98**

## CLOSEOUT OF NATIONALLY FAMOUS NONPRISMATIC POWER BINOCULARS NOW HELD IN WAREHOUSES...

**BRAND NEW  
MODEL**



**Enjoy BIG,  
Sharp Views  
of Natural  
Wonders, People,  
Buildings, Wild Animals...**

Deep cut price in this announcement is for a short time only. Special discount price applies only to our Nonprismatic Panoramic I Model. This is our largest selling model with high enlarging power and long range—a deluxe instrument made in Europe.

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**HI-POWER NITE & DAY  
MODEL PULLS IN  
AMAZING VIEWS  
FROM MILES AWAY!**

**SPECIAL  
DEEP SLASHED  
DISCOUNT PRICE!**

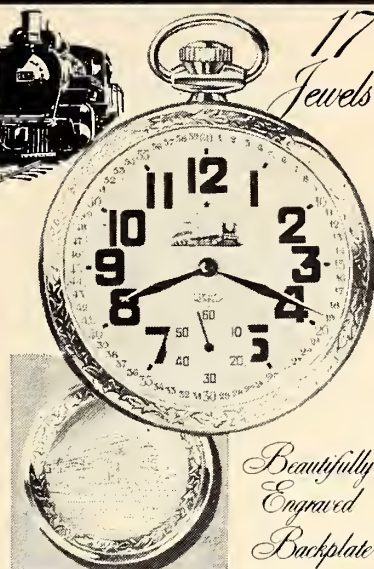
here and abroad. That is why we have ordered these binoculars **RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC** at once—at a fraction of regular national price.

**LATEST MODEL**

Readers should not be confused by the low price. These are brand new binoculars made in Western Europe by experienced optical craftsmen. Big 40mm Objective Lenses give long range views. Now slashed down to \$4.37.

**No. 2013—Panoramic Binoculars.....4.37  
2 for 8.95 postpaid. (Save 1.03!)**

## A RUGGED RAILROAD WATCH



*Beautifully  
Engraved  
Backplate*

A rugged new **RAILROAD** Watch with real accuracy and dependability built in! Precision-made 17 jewel movement with shock protection. Big, clear dial markings. Case finished in gleaming silver-tone or gold-tone and handsomely filigreed in the old-time railroad tradition. Detailed engraving of locomotive on polished back plate. A perfect gift for railfans everywhere.

**No. 5075—Pocket Railroad Watch**

(Silver-Tone) .....19.95

**No. 5075A—Pocket Watch**

(Gold-Tone finish) .....21.95



### MAGNIFYING GLASSES MAKE TINY PRINT BIG!

Now you can read the smallest print easily with these Magnifying Reading Glasses. Made with finest quality optically ground lenses for men and women of all ages. Comes in vinyl carrying case.

**No. 6049—Magnifying Glasses .....2.98**

**No. 6049A—Magnifying Half-Glasses.....2.98**

(Not prescription glasses.)

Not for Astigmatism, eye diseases)

State AGE and whether for **MAN** or **Woman**

### Foster-Trent

2345 Post Road, Dept. 200-D,  
Larchmont, N. Y. 10538

Please RUSH guaranteed articles as specified below. I enclose payment with this condition: I must be completely satisfied or I may return within 7 days for my money back at once.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	PRICE

Shipping & Handling  
N. Y. State customers' sales tax  
Total Enclosed

Please enclose 55¢ with order to cover shipping cost. (N. Y. State residents add appropriate sales tax).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



# NURSERY STOCK SALE!

30% Below Catalog Prices  
Every Plant Will Be Labeled  
Planting Instructions Included  
FLOWERING SHRUBS (1 to 2 feet tall)

	Each	5 for
Althea Double; Red, Pink White	\$.15	\$.60
Abelia; Shell Pink	.25	1.00
Azalea; Red, Pink, White	.69	3.00
Butterfly Bush; Purple, Pink	.69	3.00
Crepe Myrtle; Red, Pink	.69	3.00
Deutzia; Double White	.12	.50
Red Weigelia; Deep Red	.19	.75
Weigelia; Pink, Yellow	.15	.60
Red Bush Honeysuckle; Red Clusters	.19	.75
Pink and White Bush Honeysuckle	.15	.60
Red Flowering Quince	.25	1.00
Red Barbary	.49	2.00
Spiraea Van Houttei, White	.25	1.00
Spiraea Anthony Waterer; Red	.39	1.50
Bridal Wreath; Spruce; Double White	.45	2.00
Japanese Snowball; Huge White	.29	1.25
Persian Lilac; Old Favorite Orchid	.29	1.25
Common Purple Lilac	.29	1.25
French Lilac; Red, Purple, White	.95	4.50
Mockorange; Large White	.12	.50
Flowering Almond; Double Pink	.49	2.00
Forsythia Golden Bell; Yellow	.12	.50
Hydrangea, P.G.; Pinkish White	.19	.75
Pussy Willow	.25	1.00
Sweet Shrub; Reddish Brown	.15	.60
Hibiscus; Giant Blooms	.09	.40
Rose Sharon	.09	.40

## SHADE AND FLOWERING TREES

	\$	\$
Magnolia; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.59	2.50
Pink Flowering Dogwood; 1 to 2 ft.	.85	4.00
Pink Flowering Dogwood; 2 to 3 ft.	1.25	5.50
Red Flowering Dogwood; 2 ft.	1.98	7.50
White Flowering Dogwood; 2 to 3 ft.	.19	.75
White Flowering Dogwood; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.35	1.50
Red Flowering Peach; 2 to 3 ft.	.85	4.00
Nymphaea; Pink; 3 to 4 ft.	.35	1.50
Tulip Tree; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.49	2.00
American Red Bud; 3 to 4 ft.	.35	1.50
Golden Rain Tree; 1 to 2 ft.	.89	4.00
Crimson King Maple; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	3.95	17.50
Smoke Tree; 1 to 2 ft.	1.25	5.00
Japanese Red Maple; 1 to 2 ft.	1.49	6.25
Ginkgo Tree; 1 to 2 ft.	.89	4.00
European Mtn. Ash; 3 to 4 ft.	2.25	11.00
Silver Maple; 3 to 4 ft.	.15	1.00
Lombardy Poplar; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.25	1.00
Chinese Elm; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.39	1.75
Tree Wisteria; 2 ft.	1.25	5.50
Weeping Willow; 3 to 5 ft.	.45	2.00
Pin Oak; Red Oak; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.49	2.00
Sycamore; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.49	2.00
White Birch; 2 to 3 ft.	.49	2.00
Sugar Maple; 3 1/2 to 5 ft.	.39	1.50
Chinese Red Bud; 1 to 2 ft.	.69	3.00
Red Leaf Plum; 2 1/2 to 4 ft.	.79	3.50

## EVERGREENS

	\$	\$
Pfitzer Juniper; Spreader, 1 ft.	.59	2.50
Hetzl Holly; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.49	2.00
Burford Holly; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.49	2.00
Nandina; Red Berry; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.49	2.00
Boxwood; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.45	2.00
Mountain Laurel; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.15	.60
Hemlock; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.15	.60
Rhododendron; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.29	1.25
Maiden Hair Fern	.25	1.00
Large Leaf Fern	.15	.60
Red Berry Pyracantha; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.49	2.00
Colorado Blue Spruce; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.35	1.50
White Pine; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.35	1.50
American Holly; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.15	.60
Japanese Yew; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.75	3.50
Wax Leaf Ligustrum; 1/2 to 1 ft.	.35	1.50

## FRUIT TREES—NUT TREES

	Each
Apple Trees: Varieties—Red and Yellow Delicious, Stayman Winesap, Early Harvest. Prices: 2 to 3 ft., .89; 3 to 5 ft., \$1.25	
Peach Trees: Varieties—Liberty, Bell of Ga., Hale Haven, Golden Jubilee, Dixie Red. Prices: 1 to 2 ft., .49; 2 to 3 ft., .89	
Plum Trees: Methely or Burbank, 2 to 3 ft.	.89
Pear Trees: Kieffer or Bartlett, 2 to 3 ft.	.89
Apricot Trees; 2 to 3 ft.	.89
Apricot Trees; 5 to 6 ft.	1.69
Cherry Trees; Montmorency, 2 to 3 ft.	1.49
5-N-1 Apple; 5 Varieties	2.98
Dwarf Elberta or Hale Haven Peach; 2 to 3 ft.	2.69
Dwarf Apple; Red or Yellow Delicious; 2 to 3 ft.	2.69
Dwarf Montmorency Cherry; 2 to 3 ft.	2.69
Dwarf Bartlett Pear; 2 to 3 ft.	2.69
Hardy Pecan; 1 to 2 ft.	.98
Hazelnut; 1 to 2 ft.	.98
Chinese Chestnut; 1 to 2 ft.	.89
Butternut or Black Walnut; 1 to 2 ft.	.99
Paper Shell Pecan; 3 to 4 ft.	3.49

## VINES—BERRIES—HEDGES

	Each
Red Scarlet Honeysuckle Vine	\$.25
Purple Wisteria Vine	.79
Bitter Sweet	.19
Vinca Minor	.09 each, or 100 for 8.00
Clematis; White	.19
Grape Vines; Concord or Fredonia	.45
Dewberry; 1 yr. Plants	.35
Raspberries; Red or Black, 1 yr.	.35
Rhubarb and Asparagus; 1 yr. Roots	.15
25 Multiflora Roses; 1 to 2 ft.	2.00
50 South Privet Hedge; 1 to 2 ft.	1.00
25 Red Cedar; 2 ft.	1.50
25 Forsythia; 1 to 2 ft.	2.50
25 California Privet Hedge	1.50
25 Lombardy Poplar; 1 to 2 ft.	1.50
25 North Privet Hedge	1.50

All plants are nursery grown, except those which are indicated by (\*) which indicates that they are collected in their native state. All plants are inspected by the Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture. This is your opportunity to buy good plants at low grower prices. Our Guarantee: If you are not entirely satisfied on arrival, return plants in 10 days and we will replace plants or refund purchase price. Send .99 Extra with order for postage and packing. Bonus Plants: With orders of \$5.00 or over you receive 5 free flowering shrubs of your choice. On all orders over \$25.00 you can take advantage of a 10% discount.

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McMinnville, Tenn. 37110

# NEWS

Robert Predmore (1972), Post 369, Oakland, N.J.

August Hofman (1968), Thomas DeMareo and Louis Brigliadoro (both 1973), Post 431, Paterson, N.J.

Otto F. Fisch (1973), Post 303, Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Alfred Miller (1972), Dale Schneider (1971), Jack Keller (1970), Charles Hersehlag (1969) and John Gruber (1968), Post 622, Williamsville, N.Y.

Stanley Czyzyski and Peter F. Byrnes (both 1973), Post 1003, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dr. Norman Woodford (1970), Post 1107, Union Springs, N.Y.

Ernest L. Baker, Arthur E. Burdick and Eunice F. Young (all 1972), Post 1248, Arkport, N.Y.

Joseph M. Kolbert (1972) and Ralph Zucker- man (1973), Post 1323, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Angelo Barnello, Casimir S. Chozazy, Joseph C. Gerka and Stanley P. Zubrowski (all 1972), Post 1650, Syracuse, N.Y.

Louis A. Benton (1966), Louis J. Blake (1972), Ermand F. Miller (1973) and Charles R. Ken- nington (1971), Post 331, Ravenna, Ohio.

Earl Richards, George Steiner, Morris Wald- man, Matthew Cook and John D. Joyce (all 1972), Post 306, Taylor, Penna.

Conrado F. Ramos (1972), Post 10, Clark Air Base, Philippines.

Andrew G. Hornig, Lewis C. Ice, Henry H. Koch, C. Irvin Krumm and W. H. Kutil (all 1972), Post 7, Huron, So. Dak.

James J. Kocer (1973), Post 183, Tabor, So. Dak.

William E. Walker (1972), Post 20, Union City, Tenn.

Granville A. Starke, Robert W. Stallings, Jr., Edgar J. Broek, Sr. and Robert A. Edwards (all 1973), Post 49, Smithfield, Va.

Forrest A. Wagner (1970) and Bertha M. Larsen (1973), Post 139, Seattle, Wash.

F. O. Bissett, Edw. H. Buske, Herbert C. Caldwell, Paul Carlson and Fred A. Chamber- lain (all 1972), Post 173, Whitewater, Wis.

Life Memberships are accepted for publica- tion only on an official form, which we provide. Reports received only from Commander, Ad- jutant or Finance Officer of Post which awarded the life membership.

They may get from by sending stamped, self- addressed return envelope to:

"L.M. Form, American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019."

On a corner of the return envelope write the number of names you wish to report. No writ- ten letter necessary to get forms.

## NEW POSTS

The American Legion has recently chartered the following new posts:

Eagle River Post 33, Eagle River, Alaska; Mohave Valley Post 87, Bull- head City, Ariz.; Pinckeny Memorial Post 419, Pinckeny, Mich.; and La Pine Post 45, La Pine, Ore.

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion will be held in month indicated. For particulars write person whose address is given.

Notices accepted on official forms only. For form send stamped, addressed return envelope to O. R. Form, American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019. Notices should be received at least five months before scheduled reunion. No written letter necessary to get form.

Earliest submission favored when volume of requests is too great to print all.

## ARMY

2nd Arm'd Div—(July) R. F. Perry, P.O. Box 8116, Wainwright Sta., San Antonio, Tex.

4th Eng (All Wars)—(June) Carl Jones, Birch- wood, Wisc. 54817

26th Div—(June) Santo Maruca, 79 Simpson Cir., Agawam, Mass. 01001

36th Cav Recon Sqdn, Trp C—(July) Orrin Toftov, Hughes Rd., Newark, Ill. 60541

36th Div (Midwest Chapter)—(July) Ed Northouse, 1456 Emerson N.W., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504

45th Gen Hosp—(June) Joe Perlbinde, 132-61 Sanford Ave., Flushing, N.Y. 11355

57th Coast Art'y (WW2)—(July) Paul Posen, 4060 West 49th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44144

75th Div—(Aug.) John Eden, 1125 S. 47th Ter., Kansas City, Kan. 66106

77th Field Art'y, 2nd Bn., & 631st FA—(July) Jim Collins, 505 W. 8th St., Corsicana, Tex.

80th Div MP (WW1)—(June) Mike Pasquarette, 13 Elm St., Warren, Pa. 16365

82nd Horse Art'y (WW1)—(June) W. B. Hut- chinson, Faulkton, S. Dak. 57438

100th Chem 42k Mortar Bn (WW2)—(July) Roy Benge, Rte 1, Manteno, Ill. 60950



Post 277, Sartell, Minn., honored two of its members for a heroic act. Cmdr Doug Brunn (left) presents medals to Police Chief Jerry O'Driscoll (center) and Reserve Officer Mel Patton who rescued an elderly couple from their burning home.

106th Chem Proc'g Co—(July) Floyd Steele, 907 Arledge St., Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401

110th Inf, Co C (WW1)—(July) Ivan Lambert, 120 E. Race St., Somerset, Pa. 15501

112th Inf Reg't, Co A (WW1 & 2)—(July) Frank DeLury c/o V.F.W. Home, Mead Ave., Curry, Pa. 16407

148th Field Art'y Bn—(May) Robert Smith, Rt 2, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

151st Inf, Co D—(June) Virgil Adkins, RR #1, Arlington, Ind. 46104

152nd Inf, 1st Bn (WW2)—(July) James Corley, 215 Lafayette St., New Albany, Ind. 47150

168th Inf Reg't, Hq Co & Band (WW2)—(May) John McGlothlen, 616 S. Cedar St., Jefferson, Iowa 50129

222nd Inf Reg't—(July) James McNicol, 410 Bentley St., Newell, W. Va. 26050

251st & 1st Sig Constr Cos—(Aug.) Joe Grandi- netti, 136 Kingsland Ave., Lyndhurst, N.J. 312th Inf (WW1)—(June) William Gartner, 17 Myrtle Ave., Irvington, N.J. 07111

314th Inf (WW2)—(July) Aldo Calvi, 3630 Jenifer St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20015

362nd AA Slt Bn, Co B—(June) Paul Belcher, Bowling Green, Ky. Rt #8, 42101

363rd Reg't, 1st Bn, Co D (At Dickenson, N.D.) —(June) Bennie Schneider, Richardson, No. Dak. 58652

373rd Eng, Co E (WW2)—(June) Walter Linde- man, 1435 Slate Run Rd. 51, New Albany, Ind. 47150

405th AAA Gun Bn, Bat C—(May) Anthony Maglio, 231 E. Lexington Blvd., Milwaukee Wis. 53217

406th AAA Gun Bat—(July) Edwin Turner, 1530 Newton Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45406

471st Ambulance Co (WW2)—(May) Nick Hatchett, 1636 Al Mara Circle, Louisville, Ky. 40205

479th Amphib Truck Co—(July) Ralph Stout, Rt. 1, Box 5, Snead's Ferry, N.C. 28460

508th Port Bn, 288th Co—(July) Kenneth Gill- ette, County Rd., Becket, Mass. 01223

567th AAA Aw Bn—(Aug.) Floyd Shelton, Box 566, Newberry, So. Car. 29108

622nd Ord BAM Bn, 3041st Co—(July) Warren Steed, Box 308, Candor, N.C. 27229

630th AAA Bn—(July) August Karcher, 2836 Louisiana Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

632nd Eng Lt Equip Co—(June) Charles Lewis, Rt #6, Box T-32, Frederick, Md. 21701

722nd Truck Co (Korea)—(July) Jack Sweikert, W. Market St., Williamstown, Pa. 17098

728th Amphib Tractor Bn—(Aug.) Rex Gass, 110 Plymouth Cr., Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830

770th Field Art'y Bn, Bat B—(July) Ned Payne, 60 Plum Ave., Shelby, O. 44875

807th Tank Dest Bn—(July) Don Skalberg, Wausa, Neb. 68786

818th & 819th & 820th MP Cos—(July) Leonard Banasik, 1263 W. Miner Rd., Cleveland, O.



871st Ord HAM Co—(July) Mrs. Sam Terranova, 7051 Canal Rd., Cleveland, O. 44125  
 876th Airborne Eng Av Bn (WW2)—(May) E. F. Fahrenholtz, 1201 Green Hill Ave., West Chester, Pa. 19380  
 957th Field Art'y Bn—(June) George Fowler, P.O. Box 2342, Fargo, No. Dak. 58102  
 967th Field Art'y Bn—(May) Edward Clark, 7022 Roosevelt Blvd., Philadelphia, Pa. 19149  
 1605th Ord Maint Co—(June) Harris Gilliam, 1207 Tony Dr., Jonesboro, Ark. 72401  
 Evac Hosp Co 33 (WW1)—(June) Mrs. Atta Grazier, 1335 8th Ave. So., Fort Dodge, Iowa

## NAVY

1st Bn Naval Militia New York—(May) Herbert Rothfuss, 250 E. Maujer St., Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580  
 23rd Seabees—(July) J. H. Trout, 700 Pinehurst Rd., York, Pa. 17402  
 96th Seabees (WW2)—(Aug.) Vernon Burdick, 200 Dee Lane, Arlington, Tex. 76012  
 FOXY-29 of Penarth, South Wales—(July) Thomas Schrass, 5205 Daval Dr., Swartz Creek, Mich. 48473  
 LCS 53—(June) Curtis Leonard, Beldenville, Wis. 54003  
 USS Hornet (CV8-CV12)—(June) Tom Prophet, P.O. Box 15, Annapolis, Md. 21404  
 USS LSM 181—(July) Richard Racine, 1263 So. Ogden St., Denver, Colo. 80210  
 USS LST 681—(July) Edward Musk, 2235 Silverville Rd., Freeport, Pa. 16229  
 USS Massachusetts (BB59)—(June) Robert Grimes, 75 Federal St., Boston, Mass. 02110  
 USS Peiffer (DE588)—(July) Charles Chason, 6108 N. Black Dairy Rd., Seffner, Fla. 33584  
 USS SC 539 (WW2)—(Aug.) Russell Law, 301 Wilson Rd., Conroe, Tex. 77301  
 USS Washington (BB56)—(July) John Brown, Box 27035, Columbus, O. 43227

## AIR

3rd Strategic Support Sqdn—(June) Wm. Fulmer, 1175 Whiting, Memphis, Tenn. 38117  
 72nd Trp Carrier Sqdn—(July) Edward Ginal, 246 Dupont Ave., Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150  
 345th Ftr Sqdn—(July) Jacob Kingsbury, 2106 Wesley Ave., Collinsville, Ill. 62234  
 356th Ftr Gp—(July) Louis Frangella, 117 Main St., Ravena, N.Y. 12143  
 389th Bomb Gp H (WW2)—(July) Albert Kopp, 914 Joy Ave., Rapid City, So. Dak. 57701



Hawaii's 5th District Cmdr Ronald Sharp (at right) presents Blood Donor Certificates to Dennis Kawakami, Chaplain of Post 187, Fuchu (I.), and Nelson Merrill, VCcmdr, Atsugi Post 46, both in Japan. Post 187 collected 90 pints in a blood drive and Post 46 activated 110 donors.

457th Bomb Gp (Glatton, England)—(July) Howard Larsen, 1220 1/2 W. 1st St., Topeka, Kan. 66606  
 523rd Ftr-Bomber Sqdn—(Aug.) Orville Tallman, P.O. Box 44, Union, Mich. 49130  
 874th A/B Eng Av Bn—(July) William Kettlewell, 2419 W. 3rd St., Sedalia, Mo. 65301  
 1090th Sig Co Serv Gp (Avn)—(June) Bruce Andrus, 7009 N. 35th Pl., Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Flying Tigers (Vol Gp With Chinese AF)—(July) Donald Rodewald, 1220 N. 5th St., Burbank, Calif. 91504

## MISCELLANEOUS

Pearl Harbor Survivors—(July) Al Herriford, PHSA, P.O. Box 954, Arleta, Cal. 91331  
 SACO (Sino-American Co-op)—(June) W. Lawlor, 4373 Sequoyah Rd., Oakland, Cal. 94605

# The Lazy Man's Way to Riches

*'Most People Are Too Busy Earning a Living to Make Any Money'*

I used to work hard. The 18-hour days. The 7-day weeks.

But I didn't start making big money until I did less—a *lot* less.

For example, this ad took about 2 hours to write. With a little luck, it should earn me 50, maybe a hundred thousand dollars.

What's more, I'm going to ask you to send me 10 dollars for something that'll cost me no more than 50 cents. And I'll try to make it so irresistible that you'd be a darned fool not to do it.

After all, why should you care if I make \$9.50 profit if I can show you how to make a *lot* more?

What if I'm so sure that you *will* make money my Lazy Man's Way that I'll make you the world's most unusual guarantee?

And here it is: I won't even cash your check or money order for 31 days *after* I've sent you my material.

That'll give you plenty of time to get it, look it over, try it out.

If you don't agree that it's worth at least a *hundred times* what you invested, send it back. Your *uncashed* check or money order will be put in the return mail.

The only reason I won't send it to you and bill you or send it C.O.D. is because both these methods involve more time and money.

And I'm already going to give you the biggest bargain of your life.

Because I'm going to tell you what it took me 11 years to perfect: How to make money the Lazy Man's Way.

O.K.—now I have to brag a little. I don't mind it. And it's necessary—to prove that sending me the 10 dollars... which I'll keep "in escrow" until you're satisfied...is the smartest thing you ever did.

I live in a home that's worth \$100,000. I know it is, because I turned down an offer for that much. My mortgage is less than half that, and the only reason I haven't paid it off is because my Tax Accountant says I'd be an idiot.

My "office," about a mile and a half from my home, is right on the beach. My view is so breathtaking that most people comment that they don't see how I get any work done. But I do enough. About 6 hours a day, 8 or 9 months a year.

The rest of the time we spend at our mountain "cabin." I paid \$30,000 for it—cash.

I have 2 boats and a Cadillac. All paid for.

We have stocks, bonds, investments, cash in the bank. But the most important thing I have is priceless: time with my family.

And I'll show you just how I did it—the Lazy Man's Way—a secret that I've shared with just a few friends 'til now.

It doesn't require "education." I'm a high school graduate.

It doesn't require "capital." When I started out, I was so deep in debt that a lawyer friend advised bankruptcy as the only way out. He was wrong. We paid off our debts and, outside of the mortgage, don't owe a cent to anv man.

It doesn't require "luck." I've had

more than my share, but I'm not promising you that you'll make as much money as I have. And you may do better; I personally know one man who used these principles, worked hard, and made 11 million dollars in 8 years. But money isn't everything.

It doesn't require "talent." Just enough brains to know what to look for. And I'll tell you that.

It doesn't require "youth." One woman I worked with is over 70. She's travelled the world over, making all the money she needs, doing only what I taught her.

It doesn't require "experience." A widow in Chicago has been averaging \$25,000 a year for the past 5 years, using my methods.

What *does* it require? Belief. Enough to take a chance. Enough to absorb what I'll send you. Enough to put the principles into *action*. If you do just that—nothing more, nothing less—the results *will* be hard to believe. Remember—I guarantee it.

You don't have to give up your job. But you may soon be making so much money that you'll be able to. Once again—I guarantee it.

The wisest man I ever knew told me something I never forgot: "Most people are too busy earning a living to make any money."

Don't take as long as I did to find out he was right.

I'll prove it to you, if you'll send in the coupon now. I'm not asking you to "believe" me. Just try it. If I'm wrong, all you've lost is a couple of minutes and an 8-cent stamp. But what if I'm right?

### Sworn Statement:

"I have examined this advertisement. On the basis of personal acquaintance with Mr. Joe Karbo for 18 years and my professional relationship as his accountant, I certify that every statement is true." [Accountant's name available upon request.]

### Bank Reference:

Southern California First National Bank  
 17122 Beach Blvd.,  
 Huntington Beach, California 92647

### Joe Karbo

17105 South Pacific, Dept. 588-C  
 Sunset Beach, California 90742

Joe, you may be full of beans, but what have I got to lose? Send me the Lazy Man's Way to Riches. *But don't deposit my check or money order for 31 days after it's in the mail.*

If I return your material—for any reason—within that time, return my *uncashed* check or money order to me. On that basis, here's my ten dollars.

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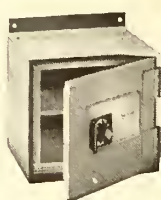
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## LIFE IN THE OUTDOORS

# The Carp Menace

THROUGH the years a monster has been invading our lakes, ponds and warm-water rivers, and conservationists are getting worried. It's the *grass carp*, a fish introduced to this country from Germany in 1872. It can be a monster in size; an 80-pounder has been reported. But most important, it is a menace to all our game-fish species. Introduce a breeding pair to your favorite fishing pond and eventually it will contain nothing but carp. You can fish for them, but it's little sport. They'll take small hooks baited with cheese or dough-balls, and sometimes wet flies, but they're lowest on the sportsman's list of fighters. Also lowest on his menu.

They don't prey on other species. But being primarily vegetarians, they feed on

Courtesy: THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



The Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*).

and uproot the weeds and grasses other fish must have for breeding places and shelter. And worst of all, their habit of digging up the bottom for food can so stir up and cloud the water that it becomes uninhabitable for game fish. It is also suspected that they eat the spawn of other fish. And carp are exceptionally hardy and adaptable with a fantastic breeding rate; a female lays many thousands of eggs and the fry's survival rate is exceptionally high. When raised for market in a farm pond, they will yield as much as 1,200 pounds of fish per acre annually.

Although many tons have been sold in this country as cheap food, the carp's taste is too inferior and it is too full of bones to appeal to most Americans. However, in other parts of the world, and carp are found on all continents, they are considered a valuable high-protein food, especially among the underdeveloped nations of Asia and Africa.

In order to protect our game-fish waters from the invasion of grass carp, many States, including New York, now have laws barring their sale or possession. California, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska have recommended its exclusion from their waters. Recently Henry Diamond, New York Commissioner of Environmental Conservation, in a letter to Rogers Morton, Secretary of the Interior, called attention to the fact that carp still are being offered for sale in some national publications as a potential answer to abundant weed growth in lakes, and once they are introduced, it

will be too late to remedy the mistake. He asked that an organized effort be made to prevent the spread of this undesirable species.

What can you do to help? For one thing, the next time you go fishing with live minnows, at the end of the day don't dump the leftovers into the water. A couple of them may be carp!

**SOAP SCRAPS**, tied into the foot of an old nylon stocking, are easier to use than bar soap on a camping trip, reports Mrs. Arvilla Gilroy of Indian Head, Md. To dry, hang from a tree limb. No more dripping soap to pack when breaking camp, and no gummy soap dishes.

**TO COOK** tough cuts of deer, moose, bear, etc. first grind them up, add per pound a teaspoon of salt, half-teaspoon of pepper, quarter-cup of catsup, quarter-cup of chopped onion. Mix and fry or broil like hamburgers. Delicious, reports WW I veteran Frances Tenney of Post No. 7, Buckhannon, W. Va.

**IF YOU** have to carry pills on your outdoor trips, such as glycerine, to treat recurrent illness, a ball-point pen is a help, advises Mr. John Handy of Lyons, Kan. Remove the insides, insert a wad of cotton, then add the pills and screw on the top. Stick a label on the outside.

**KEEPING** food cool enough to prevent spoilage is a problem for wilderness campers. The answer, reports James Gates of Canton, So. Dak., is to dig a hole at least two feet deep, put in the food in sealed containers, then cover. The earth is an insulator against heat. Works on a sand beach, too.

**FIVE** new outdoor films are available from Johnson Outboard's library on free loan to schools, clubs and interested groups: How's The Water, Havasu Outboard World Championship, Gone Fishin', Bass And The Pros, and Rainbow! All 16-mm color. Write: Solana Studios, 4365 N. 27th St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53216.

**TO FLY CAST** a trout stream with too much foliage on the shore to permit a backcast, try this trick. Face the foliage, select a hole in it and cast into it. Then your backcast will curl over the stream. As it does, turn around and let the fly fall as you would on a front cast.

**ICE CUBES** make good scattergun targets, with nothing left to pollute the landscape. For plinkers, they shatter nicely when hit. Carry them in your camping cooler.

**If you have a helpful idea for this feature send it in. If we can use it we'll pay you \$5.00. However, we cannot acknowledge, return, or enter into correspondence concerning contributions. Address: Outdoor Editor, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.**



# YOU'LL PROBABLY NEVER NEED TO PUMP OUT A CLOGGED-UP CESSPOOL OR SEPTIC AGAIN!

(or have  
your  
grounds  
dug up,  
either!)



*POW guarantees to clear cesspool  
and septic tank backup  
OR YOUR MONEY BACK!*

Can you afford to shrug off a \$50 to \$100 pumping job — plus \$400 to \$1,000 in landscaping repairs — every time your cesspool or septic tank backs up? If you can, you may be able to afford to do without POW.

Can you live comfortably with the inconvenience, the stench, and the health hazard of sewage overflowing your precious lawn, garden, and grounds . . . or backing up into your home? If you can, you may be able to manage without POW!

You see, without POW, even the best-kept cesspools and septic tanks do back up. Because the ground pores around and beneath your cesspool or septic tank drainage area get plugged up by the detergent residues, hardened fats, and other stubborn solids that make up 10% of your household wastes. As a result, the other 90% of your household sewage — water — can't drain away, and backs up. Caustics, acids, enzymes, even pumping, may ease the symptoms — but they can't get at the cause.

In fact, caustics and acids add to the trouble, literally hard-glaze sand into glass! Enzymes and bacteria miss the trouble, because they can't dissolve detergents! And pumping only postpones the trouble, because it doesn't restore drainage! But POW does!

## How POW Works Where Other Methods Don't

POW is a revolutionary new one-purpose formula, custom-formulated to dissolve only the hardened solids that clog sewage systems. It is perfectly safe to handle, and harmless to plumbing, pipes, lawns, gardens, cement, and mortar. You simply pour POW into any plumbing outlet in your house. It is heavier than water, so it sinks right through and down into your drainage area, liquefying wastes as it goes!

**POW opens the pores of the ground. And it keeps them open.** So there is no place for trouble to start. And you keep your system that way, with a "booster shot" of a quart of POW just 4 times a year, from then on. It's a small price to pay for security.

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Order 2 gallons of POW, on a guaranteed money-back basis. Use as directed. Chances are, the first gallon will unclog your system. (If it does, the remaining gallon will give you an extra year of "booster shot" protection.) If not, add the second gallon as directed. **The two gallons of POW must open your system within 30 days!** If not, every penny of your purchase will be refunded!

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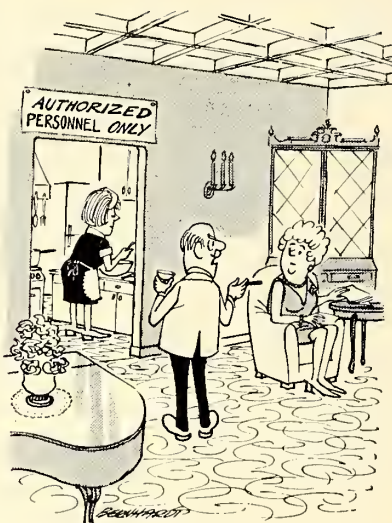
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## (Continued from page 22)

They received ratings commensurate with their civilian experience. A steelworker or pipefitter who had risen to foreman or an owner of a small business was rated a Chief Shipfitter, or Shipfitter, First Class. A master carpenter might be given a Chief Carpenter's rating, etc. The average Seabee during WW2 enlisted with a rating of Petty Officer, Second Class, which was the equivalent of Staff Sergeant in the Army. Their average pay and allowances made them one of the highest paid groups in the military service—though they received nothing remotely approaching their civilian wages.



THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Construction men were supervised by chief petty officers—often the same men who had been straw bosses and construction foremen in civilian life. The petty officers, in turn, were super-

A few spit-and-polish officers took offense if an unsaluting Scabee slouched up to ask: "Hey, Mac! You the guy wants the dirt moved?" But once they learned how fast Seabees could move dirt they easily forgot protocol, and



could answer: "Damn right, Jack. From here over to there."

The Seabees guzzled down enough beer to float a fleet of battleships. Somehow, the beer was usually cold, even in the steaming tropics. They always seemed to have ice cream available, no matter what the conditions. Their windmill washing machines were Pacific landmarks. In their spare time, they built motor scooters, sailing boats and surf boards out of junk. They turned worn-out truck tires into rubber heels. They invented a beer can opener that made the air hole and the drinking hole at the same time. They collected, manufactured and endlessly sold souvenirs. What they couldn't buy, make or invent, they "obtained" or "procured." Somehow, they always had what they needed.

They were older than most troops. In the early part of the war, their average age was 35. Many were WW1 veterans. Most were volunteers, until the last part of the war. And their age inspired many a dig. "Never hit a Seabee," the Marines would say. "He might be some Marine's father." The Seabees took that kind of joshing well. They even made up "Junior Seabee" badges, which they gave to deserving Marines. "The Marines," they pointed out, "only capture territory. It's the Seabees who improve it."

Actually, the Seabees and the Ma-

rines were quite a team. The Marines would charge up the beaches with the Seabees close behind, setting up to unload the transports. There was a rivalry between them that was more friendly than anything else.

ON TINIAN ISLAND, Seabee battalions "adopted" B-29 crews. Several times a week, all the members of a bomber's flying and ground crews would visit "their" Seabee battalion and explain what targets had been hit, what resistance was met, etc. The Seabees responded to this inside look at the air war by providing "their" crews with as many of the luxuries of home as possible. Adopted B-29 crews ate Seabee-supplied steaks; slept on soft, Seabee-renovated mattresses; drank cold beer; snacked on ice cream, courtesy of the Seabees—and had flush toilets the Seabees procured from Japan.

On the other hand, at Guian, on Leyte Gulf, a battalion "misdesigned" part of the layout, to give its men moments when they hurled epithets at bomber pilots. They put their open air theater right under the landing pattern of the big bomber strip they'd built across Calicoan peninsula on Samar. Night after night, key words of the movie being shown were drowned out by B-24's coming in in the darkness overhead. For

months in 1945, the theater was the source of howls and curses every few minutes all evening. The fact that they could hear each plane coming and knew when they were about to miss part of the sound track made it an exquisite form of torment. That was almost the very beginning of complaints about too much noise around airports.

As the war progressed, Seabee ranks began to fill up with younger inductees. But the essential character of the group never changed. Older men were sprinkled throughout the newer units and soon made traditional Seabees of newcomers.

The main Seabee job was to build, repair and maintain. Build they did—in rain, snow, muck, heat and cold—often while nearly being eaten alive by insects. Repair could be even worse.

Cmdr. Joseph Blundon—also cited in Huie's book—described how the 6th Seabees kept the airstrip operational at Henderson Field on Guadalcanal. After a little experience, the battalion came up with a formula for how much damage one Japanese bomb could do to the steel Marston matting of the airstrip, and how much earth it took to fill a shellhole before the mat could be repaired over it. So they stored scores of one-bomb-repair-units along the airstrip before the bombs fell. During a raid, all hands, even cooks,

(Continued on page 40)

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## THE SEABEES IN WW2

(Continued from page 39)

manned "crater crew" repair stations in foxholes along the edge of the field, while loaded trucks with men and gear to repair the Marston mat stood by under jungle cover.

"The moment the bombers passed over, these men boiled out of the holes and raced for the craters," while the trucks and their crews stormed out of hiding to repair the mats.

"We found that 100 Seabees could repair the damage of a 500 lb. bomb hit on an airstrip in 40 minutes. But we needed all of this speed and more. In 24 hours, on Oct. 13 and 14 [1942], 53 bombs and shells hit the Henderson airstrip.

"Our worst moments were when the Jap bomb or shell failed to explode when it hit. It still tore up our mat and it had to come out. When you see men choke down their fear and dive in after an unexploded bomb, so that our planes can land safely, a lump comes in your throat and you know why America wins wars. . . ."

Fate and natural inclination gave the Seabees an enormous advantage in the unofficial, makeshift business world that grew up in the islands of the Pacific.

The Seabees had plenty of contact with the seaborne, land and air forces, as well as with newcomers just over from the states. Each group always seemed to want souvenirs from other spheres of action—possibly to suggest to folks back home that they'd been where they hadn't.

The Seabees, most of whom were older than the combat troops, were wise in the ways of the world. Many of them had well-developed business instincts. They understood, to be frank about it, the value of a buck. They were also manufacturers—if need be.

These factors made the Seabees the middlemen of the Pacific during WW2, the wholesalers and retailers who somehow procured (or made) whatever was in demand.

As everyone knows from war movies, the Seabees' main stock in trade was souvenirs. And this is a truth in war movies. Many were genuine souvenirs, bought from soldiers, airmen and Marines, and resold at a far higher price. They were very often sold to sailors, who

had few opportunities to get them on their own. There were Japanese knives and swords and flags and pistols and badges and parts of uniforms—anything that could be clearly identified as former enemy property was good enough.

When demand exceeded supply, which was most of the time, the Seabees did their best not to disappoint the souvenir seekers. If no Japanese general's sword could be found, a Scabee might make one from the leaf spring of an old jeep. One such sword, alleged to have been taken



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from the Japanese commander at Saipan, sold for \$600 at a raffle. Enemy flags were also a hot item and the Seabees never got hold of enough of them to satisfy the demand. But they soon found that the Army was willing to trade them parachutes for plywood sheets. Cut up and colored, the parachutes made perfectly fine Japanese flags. According to one tale, a Navy lieutenant bought such a flag from a Seabee unit for \$50 and a bottle of stateside bourbon. He was sure of its authenticity because it had a Japanese inscription on it. When he got home, he had it translated. The inscription read: "You have been taken for a ride by the 133rd Seabees." It is probably not true—but it will stand for more truth than will ever be revealed.

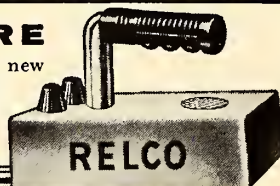
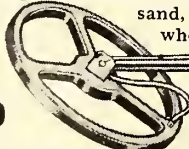
One way to provide genuine souvenirs was to scavenge downed Japanese planes, which were very plentiful in the latter stages of the war. When Japanese planes flew over Seabee positions, the men would take to their foxholes and eye the planes like vultures. Usually, it wouldn't be long before a P-38 or two came along

(Continued on page 42)

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and shot down the Japanese aircraft. Then the Seabees would leap out of their foxholes and run to where they thought the plane would fall. The most experienced of them could tell where that would be, within a few feet. Moments after it hit, they were all over it, like locusts, "field stripping" it for anything of value. The souvenir yield was so high from downed Japanese planes that, at one point, when the P-38s seemed to be dropping them over Army bases and not Seabee camps, one Seabee is supposed to have complained to MacArthur about the "collusion."

**S**OUVENIRS also were obtained in wholesale quantities from the Army and the Marines in return for hot showers, ice cream and the like. And rarely was an established Seabee camp without hot showers and ice cream for long.

One type of souvenir manufactured by the Seabees without any deception was the cat-eye ring. The Seabees talked about the cat-eye as if it were some kind of semiprecious stone. Actually, it was nothing more than part of the highly polished shell of a Pacific snail. Set in silver (sometimes obtained from Japanese searchlights), such a ring could bring \$50.

Another hot item was liquor, if that word can be used to describe the stuff. Seabee ingenuity had no trouble fermenting local fruit and setting up stills. One Seabee moonshiner produced five gallons of hooch every four days—and sold it for \$60 a gallon.

At Eniwetok, a shipfitter named G.A. Grey invented a particular brand of Kickapoo Juice. The exact formula is still his secret, but consumers complained that while it had the desired wallop it seemed to be made of potato peelings, coconut shoots and brake fluid.

On Tinian, three enterprising Seabees made a reasonable likeness of maple syrup from Tinian's crop of sugar cane. Three Southerners who knew all about cane formed the Little Rebel Syrup Company. This company traded syrup to ships for flour, allowing both sides in the deal to enjoy pancakes and syrup for breakfast quite often.

Seabees exercised the same ingenuity on the job. When a bulldozer's head gasket blew out on Ellice Island and there were no replacement gaskets available, the Seabees made one from thin sheets of metal and paper. A Seabee chief on Samoa made a replacement condenser out of waxed paper, tinfoil from a cigarette pack and an old beer can. On Guadalcanal, a Seabee officer managed to keep captured Jap trucks running by making replacement radiators out of metal ammo

boxes. This trick eventually became standard throughout the Pacific.

When Seabees found themselves short on replacement tires, they filled the old ones with a mixture of palm tree sawdust and cement—and the trucks kept rolling. In many locations, they used Coke bottles as insulators for power and telephone lines. If a Seabee smashed his watch crystal, he made a replacement from the Plexiglas of a wrecked plane windshield. Seabees figured out how to repair broken dentures, using ground rubber and cement. On one occasion, when no silver stars were available for a newly promoted general, a Seabee took two quarters and manufactured them on the spot.

In the Russell Islands, a Chief Motor Machinist's Mate discovered a way to combine a jeep motor and amphibious-type generators to make a power plant capable of charging as many as 16 auto batteries in 30 hours.

On Guadalcanal, a Seabee noticed that our tanks had one glaring weakness—an open sprocket hole over which the tread revolved. A Japanese soldier with a crowbar could stop one dead, just by sticking it into the hole. The Seabee corrected the tank designer's oversight in about 20 minutes. He cut a circular piece out of a discarded oil drum and welded it over the sprocket.

Oil drums served as a source of raw material for practically every object you can imagine. They were used for drainage pipes, roofing, smokestacks, stoves, washing machines, revetments, shower baths, bathtubs, walls, dock shoring, ice cream machines and, in at least one case, a canoe—with Japanese seaplane floats for outriggers.

Some of this ingenuity was built in to the very material the Seabees used. Take pontoons. If the Army's "secret weapon" was the jeep, the "secret weapons" of the Seabees were the bulldozer and the pontoon—the latter an unglamorous steel box five by five by seven feet in size.

**E**VER SINCE 1936, the Civil Engineering Corps of the Navy had been working on some way to quickly build a variety of barges, small yard craft and other floating equipment in the event of a major amphibious war in the Pacific. By 1940, a Navy captain, John N. Laycock, had begun to develop what later became the steel pontoon.

What he came up with was nothing more—apparently—than a bunch of flat metal sheets, six of which would make a big steel box. What made it unique and versatile was its system of heavy steel angles and special hardware, or "jewelry," which allowed it to be joined with other boxes in an astonishingly wide variety of arrangements.



The flat sheets could be stacked in holds and shipped overseas using a minimum of cargo space—if there were someone on the other end to assemble them. The Seabees' overseas pontoon assembly depots became the "someone on the other end." The sheets could be made into pontoons and the pontoons could be assembled in combinations for use as barges, piers or bridges. When a specially developed outboard motor was added, the Seabees had themselves a self-propelled barge or a tug for harbor or beachhead work. Cranes, pile drivers, dredges and almost any other kind of waterfront work equipment could be mounted on a pontoon barge. Equipped with the necessary plumbing and piping, a batch of pontoon barges could be used as fuel and water tanks and, with a little plumbing, water distributors. With a door cut into them, pontoons made fine paint or gear lockers. A Seabee cook in the Russell Islands even converted a pair into an oven and a grill.

The pontoon really came into its own in the Sicily landings in 1943. The Sicily beaches were shallow and sloping. LSTs couldn't get close enough to them to dump their loads of tanks, etc. But someone figured out how to connect pontoons into long, two-pontoon-wide causeways. These were hung on the sides of LSTs. As the ships approached the shore, the causeway sections were cut loose and

launched into the water, with Seabee crews riding them. Their momentum carried them into the beach, where they were then connected into 300-foot lengths and bolted onto the LSTs. In a matter of minutes, the vehicles were rolling ashore, to the consternation and astonishment of the Germans. This system was also later used in Korea and Vietnam.

Riding their pontoon causeways up to the beach, the Seabees suffered 23% casualties.

ON NORMANDY'S beachheads an even more elaborate pontoon variation helped bring tanks, trucks, and artillery from the landing craft to the beaches. Seabee-built barges, six pontoons wide and 30 pontoons long, powered by two of the special pontoon engines, were used to unload offshore LSTs in two trips, delivering precious heavy equipment to the shore over treacherous sandbars that would have grounded the LSTs. These craft, probably because of their size and ponderous shape, were called Rhino barges. They might have been awkward and unwieldy, but on D-Day they were invaluable.

The Seabees didn't fight if they didn't have to. But often they had to. They were trained in the use of the carbine and the Browning automatic rifle.

The first combat hero of the Seabees

was Seaman First Class Buckey Meyer, of Toledo, Ohio. He "obtained" a machine gun for his Guadalcanal foxhole and "procured" some ammunition from the Marines. One day, when Japanese planes appeared overhead, he let loose with the machine gun. Meyer knocked down a Zero and got a Silver Star for his efforts. Later, he was killed in a Japanese air raid while working on a pontoon barge.

In May 1944, on Los Negros island in the Admiralties, just north of eastern New Guinea, the 40th Seabee Battalion was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division of the Army. Its object was to put the unused and much bombed Japanese airstrip at Momote into operation. The Army captured the airfield, all right, but while the Seabees were at work on it, the Japanese counterattacked in greater force than anyone suspected was present. Two Seabee officers and 100 men took over a sector of the perimeter and occupied a trench that they dug with the battalion's ditch digger. They armed themselves with automatic rifles and knives, and set up a truck-mounted 20 mm gun behind them. Meanwhile, other Seabees landed and started to grade and clear the runways and taxiways in the midst of the battle. Others drove bulldozers into the jungle to clear fire lanes for Army guns, using the blades now to

(Continued on page 44)

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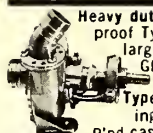
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## THE SEABEES IN WW2

(Continued from page 43)

clear a lane and again raised as a shield, behind which they fired at the foe.

In the Japanese assault, the Seabees distinguished themselves by capturing two machine gun positions and a Bofors gun. They took 47 casualties, with nine killed. General MacArthur awarded them the Army's Distinguished Unit Badge, and President Roosevelt gave them the Presidential Unit Citation.

In the Trecasury Islands, when a pillbox manned by 12 Japanese held up a Marine advance and pinned them down, a 28-year-old Machinist's Mate First Class, Aurelio Tassone, hopped into his bulldozer, raised the blade as a shield and drove the big machine right up to the pillbox. Then he smothered it with earth. He got a Silver Star for his action. Soon after, the Seabees were being supplied with armored bulldozers, which could do the same job somewhat more safely.

On New Georgia, in July 1943, a detachment of Marines charged ashore from landing craft in a dawn assault and rushed up the beach looking for Japanese troops. They were greeted by a party of Seabees that had already landed on the enemy-held island to make reconnaissance for an airfield site. As the commander of the detachment told the Marines, "The Seabees are always glad to welcome the Marines."

**D**URING THE course of WW2, the Seabees received countless decorations and letters of commendation for their efforts.

"Our Marines returning from the fronts have had nothing but praise for the work of our Navy's rugged fighter-builders. Wherever Marines have gone, they have seen their Seabee comrades performing miracles of construction and repair, often under heavy fire," wrote Gen. Thomas Holcomb, Marine Corps Commandant.

"I don't know how we could have gotten along without the Seabees," declared Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, who also became the Marines' Commandant. Another Marine General, H.M. "Howling Mad" Smith called the Seabees "the find of this war."

"The only trouble with your Seabees," wrote Douglas MacArthur to Admiral Morcell, "is that you don't have enough of them."

A little more than five years after WW2 had ended, the Seabees were at it again, in Korea. At the start of that conflict, there were only 3,300 Seabees in the Navy. At the war's peak, there were some 15,000 on active duty.

Many of the Seabees who found themselves in the muck and mud of Korea were the same men who had struggled

against those elements in WW2. And they performed similar stunts.

In Korea, the Seabee's greatest moment came at the Inchon landing. Not only were they instrumental in making that landing technically possible in the face of 30-foot tides, but they also brought supplies ashore, as they had so many times in WW2.

Soon after the landing, while the Marines were staking out a beachhead, they saw a locomotive steaming toward them from enemy territory, on tracks miraculously left intact. The Marines were instantly alert. For a while, they were certain they were about to bear the brunt of a North Korean counter-attack. But it was only the Seabees, who had captured the train several miles behind enemy lines and were bringing it up to help transport equipment inland. They were "at it again," as one Marine officer put it, with a grudging smile.

The Seabees also participated in the construction of American base camps in the Antarctic in three separate operations. The first was in 1947. Then there was another in 1955 and still another in 1966-67. The last program involved almost 200 Seabees. Among other things, they built a 6,000-foot runway entirely out of ice, on McMurdo Sound, working in temperatures as low as minus 65 degrees.

In Vietnam, though the new Seabees there were a young outfit, composed mostly of 20- and 21-year-olds, they proved that they deserved the name Seabee. In that country, they participated in what Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called "the largest single construction program in the history of the world." Performing construction at the rate of \$10 million a month, they built camps for Marine, Army, Navy and Air Force troops equivalent to a city with a population of more than a half million. They built four and a half miles of bridges, a quarter million lineal feet of runways and taxiways and more than four million square feet of warehouse space. They also manufactured a half million tons of asphalt.

Their Vietnam operation reached its peak in 1969, when some 25,000 Seabees were on the job. By January 1971, that figure had been cut in half, as the need for construction projects in that country tailed off, and soon only a token work force remained.

Today, the Seabees are again receding into history. But their name, tradition and legend remain.

THE END

**BUY  
U. S. SAVING BONDS**



## WHAT'S NEW FOR YOUR TEETH?

(Continued from page 15)

can do a real hydraulic mining job on any plaque or impacted food left in hard-to-see spots after a routine cleaning. But start with low pressure and work up, and if you have tender gums consult your dentist before using a water pick. The water jets are effective because they are powerful.

On another front, we seem quite close to a food additive that will cut down tooth decay. Phosphates added to sugary foods offer considerable promise of correcting whatever it is about eating refined sugar that helps the decay bacteria.

There is a strong suspicion that it is the removal of phosphate from raw sugar that has made refined sugar so bad for teeth. Phosphate—which is another of the substances necessary for life—may also strengthen the enamel as fluorides do.

If this proves out (and it is almost a sure thing right now), phosphate food additives will probably create no such controversy as was stirred up by adding fluorides to public water supplies. We can imagine commercial makers of sweets rushing to phosphates without any hint of compulsion, and vying with each other in their advertising claims of "The Sweet That Helps Your Teeth," "Eat Goopy Wooley, the candy dentists recommend," or "Crunchy Wunchy, the candy with 10% more phosphate."

Two MIT scientists, Dr. Robert S. Harris (a nutritionist) and Dr. Abraham E. Nizel (a dentist) have fairly well demonstrated that TMP (short for a phosphate called trimetaphosphate) protects teeth against the effect of a high sugar diet. Exactly how it works isn't certain and it may have multiple good effects. Combined with fluorides, TMP seems to fortify the enamel better than phosphate or fluorides do separately. And apparently it either makes refined sugar distasteful to decay bacteria or less useful to them as a raw material for acid manufacture.

Dr. Harris stumbled on the phosphate trail while studying the diets of people in New England and Texas back in 1950. The Texas group seemed to have less than half as many cavities as New Englanders who were getting the same diet. Analyzing the foods, he found a difference. The corn and milk in Texas had a higher phosphate level than in New England. Something else might have been responsible, so he added phosphates to the diet of the New England group. Their cavity rate dropped to that of the Texas group.

He teamed up with Dr. Nizel in more than 150 studies with various phosphates in diets of rats and hamsters. The result is TMP, which can reduce cavities

in laboratory rats by 95%. The amount of phosphate that works best is a 2% addition, which is almost exactly the amount removed from sugar in the refining process.

TMP is being tested in a study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, in St. Augustine. With parental permission, groups of children are being given chewing gum every day, some of it laced with TMP, some of it not. Results will be available in about a year and the National Institutes of Health believe that TMP will prove itself as an additive in such things as candy, pre-sweetened cereal and toothpaste.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which holds the TMP patent rights, has been negotiating with a half dozen or so companies about licensing rights for using TMP in various products. The first to incorporate TMP might well be a toothpaste. Gillette Co., the razor maker, is known to be interested in developing and marketing a TMP toothpaste and perhaps a TMP mouthwash.

MIT emphasizes that more must be done before TMP goes on the public market. It still needs the approval of

the Food & Drug Administration. MIT hopes that its already extensive testing of the compound might shorten the usual four years it takes to get the government's okay. The best guess: a TMP toothpaste within three years, followed soon after by TMP candy bars, pre-sweetened cereals, chewing gums, soft drinks and other assorted goodies. Just imagine telling your child to "eat your candy bar, it's good for you."

A number of other developments in dentistry, which are not all on the main trail of stopping decay and gum disease, are worthy of note.

These would include a new way to apply fluorides orally so that children can get do-it-yourself daily applications without a dental appointment every day.

The country is still full of people who are mad at the compulsory medication of everyone by adding fluorides to public water. Easy voluntary fluoridation would be preferable politically, if for no other reason. Many dentists have taken to applying fluorides with a brush during office visits, and children whose enamel is still forming are the chief targets.

Now there is a fluoride gel that is applied in a fitted mouthpiece that's worn a few minutes a day. Tests on schoolchildren in a Buffalo, N.Y., suburb

(Continued on page 46)

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## LAST-MINUTE TAX REMINDERS. HEALTH COSTS, HEALTH CARE. PHASE 3 COST RISES?

By mid-month you will have to settle up your federal income tax for 1972 with Uncle Sam. A little care in doing this can save you headaches later on. **First of all, avoid simple, careless slips.** Thus:

- Be sure your name (and your spouse's) is on the return, along with your address.
- List your occupation (and your wife's, if she has one) together with Social Security numbers.
- Attach all W-2 forms, and be sure they agree with what you report on the income tax return itself.
- Sign and date the return (otherwise it's not valid).
- Double-check all your figures.

As for computing the tax itself:

**This time there are two forms—a short form (1040A) and a long form (1040).** The short form is easy to fill out because you don't have to itemize deductions. But before you take this quick route, remember that the short form allows a married couple a maximum of only \$2,000 worth of deductions. So if you have any sizable medical or dental bills, interest, taxes, contributions, alimony, moving expenses, etc., you may be ahead of the game by using the long form and itemizing. In fact, **the government advises you to figure both ways** if you have any doubts, and then choose the route that will give you the better break.

A handy guide for your tax work, by the way, is "Your Federal Income Tax 1973 Edition" (issued by the Internal Revenue Service; generally available at post offices for 75¢).

\* \* \*

Here are some recent developments and statistics in the field of health and health care:

**HOSPITAL COSTS:** These have slowed their steep rate of climb somewhat (they remain under wage and price controls), but nevertheless **the national average for a day's stay in a hospital with meals, nursing care and laboratory tests now is slightly over \$100.**

**HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE:** More and more educational campaigns are being cranked up to make Americans aware of the perils of high blood pressure (hypertension). Estimates are that maybe 23 million adults have the malady—which could make them susceptible to heart attacks and strokes—but that only about half that number are aware of their condition. Hypertension can be controlled effectively on a long-term basis via drugs; but the physician should be thoroughly familiar with them, because some do have side effects.

**KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS:** Kidney ailments are one of the most expensive afflictions a person can contract. But some relief may be in sight. Normally, if you have a transplant, you pay the donor's hospital expenses which—when added to your own—run your bills sky-high. But now the Health Insurance Association of America is recommending that the donor's bills be paid by the donor's insurance company. Chances are good that the recommendation will be accepted.

\* \* \*

Although nobody expects runaway inflation during Phase 3 of price and wage controls, **some fairly stiff price hikes are likely.**

**Food heads the list.** In this category, meat will be the biggest riser, mainly because Americans tend to eat more meat and better grades when incomes are rising. Overall, look for about a 4% price rise.

**The cost of services also will go up sharply.** Rents already have had steep climbs and will continue to get stiffer. Remember that the price of services depends a great deal on labor costs. As long as these keep moving ahead, so will service costs.

As for auto prices, they have been fairly stable. There have been some slight increases (around \$50) because of safety and pollution-control equipment required by the government. But **increases of around \$100 may be in the offing** to cover higher labor and material costs.

*By Edgar A. Grunwald*

## WHAT'S NEW FOR YOUR TEETH?

(Continued from page 45)

showed that the gel gave as much as 80% protection against cavities. The kids used the mouthpiece from three to five minutes a day for two years.

A similar project in Stickney Township, Ill., involved the use of a more concentrated gel for just 25 days, with good early results.

Another novelty is an acrylic plastic tooth to replace an extracted tooth. It includes roots molded from a cast of the original tooth. For all practical purposes it "takes root" in the emptied socket.

Dr. Arthur Ashman, of Columbia University, has implanted plastic teeth in 15 patients, who have worn them for up to four years without trouble. Such teeth are molded, fitted and wired in immediately after extraction. After a few



months the jawbone surrounds the base and grows through holes Ashman drills in his false teeth. The gums take hold, and the wire is then removed. In many obvious ways, this is superior to the usual dentures or bridgework. A colleague of Ashman, Dr. Milton Hodosh, of Tufts University, has experimented with variations on the Ashman teeth. He has been putting most of them in baboons, where they have lasted as long as ten years even though the baboons have gnawed on coconut husks and cage bars.

Such teeth aren't going to be ready for anything more than experimental dentistry for some time, so don't ask your dentist for one yet.

Dr. James Hayward, of Ann Arbor, Mich., has successfully transplanted teeth from a sister to a brother. They were impacted in the sister's mouth and had to come out, while her brother needed exactly those bicuspid. They made themselves at home in their new mouth, and one of them even developed a cavity there that had to be filled. Tooth transplants face the same problem as other transplants. If you don't get the right type of donor the tooth may simply be rejected. But, at least in a limited way, transplanting has been carried out successfully.



Drs. Melvin Goldman and Joseph Kronman, of Tufts, have come up with a "chemical drill" that should be a boon to people who need drilling. It has the mysterious name GK-1-1. Sprayed on tooth decay, it melts most of the decayed matter away in from one to seven minutes, depending on the size of the job. A little bit of drilling may be needed to finish the job, but hardly enough to bother the worst worrywart.

The rights to GK-1-1 are now the property of the Warner-Lambert pharmaceutical house. It is putting it through extensive tests and asking the FDA for permission to market it. If you have a cavity now, don't wait out the FDA four years delay before it will approve new chemicals for human use.

**D**ENTISTS have never been happy with the adhesives used to hold fillings in place. The best one available sticks to the fillings very well, but not that well to the teeth. Very often, more of your tooth must be drilled out than what is decayed, to notch and roughen the tooth so the filling will hold better. Quite a few years ago an intensive effort was started by organized dentistry to learn the secrets of barnacles, whose glue—regularly applied under water by the barnacles—is the most adhesive substance known to man.

No late report on the barnacle study has come to the attention of this writer. But there are other developments in the effort to replace the stickum of Germany's P. Steenbock, which has been the chief dental adhesive since 1903.

Two Londoners, Alan Wilson and Brian Kent, now have a new and better dental glue—a combination of alumina, cryolite, fluorite and quartz. Not only does it stick well to unroughened, unnotched dental surfaces, it also looks almost exactly like tooth enamel, and can be used as a filling for very small holes and cracks. The engineering world is even eying it for difficult industrial welds and cementings. It too is still on the waiting list while it is being further tested for FDA approval here and is four or more years away from general usage.

There are a number of new filling materials that are long-lasting, easily installed and both cheaper and better looking than gold, silver or porcelain. One mixture uses powdered quartz and an epoxy resin base, not much different from household epoxy glues. Another uses an acrylic plastic base similar to the stuff Dr. Ashman uses to make his rooted false teeth. The newer filling materials are especially suited to filling cavities in front teeth, where a natural look is important for the continued beauty of your winsome smile. Most of these materials are not waiting for FDA approval and are in use in many dentists' offices today.

THE END

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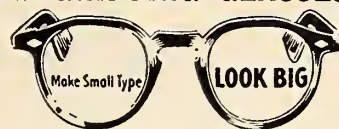
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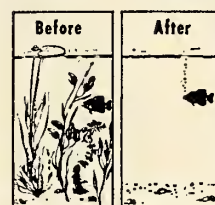
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# PARTING SHOTS



"I'm sorry, sir, but we're calling in this model to make necessary safety-adjustments."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

## TO THE LETTER . . . .

As a result of a bitter argument, husband and wife were not speaking to each other. Upon retiring for the night the husband handed his wife a terse note which read: "Call me at seven in the morning."

When he awoke, it was nine. As he hurried to dress, he noticed a note beside his own: "It's seven. Get up, you bum!"

LUCILLE J. GOODYEAR

## HEAVY BABY

A man who had discovered the joys of fishing became even more insistent than most fishermen upon recounting his triumphs to skeptical acquaintances. Disgruntled by their thinly veiled hints that he was a liar, he bought a pair of scales, installed them in his game room and had his friends watch as he weighed his fish.

One evening a neighbor burst in excitedly to borrow the scales. He was back in ten minutes, his face flushed with delight. "Congratulate me," he cried. "I'm the father of a 24-pound baby boy!"

HENRY E. LEABO

## A PENNY SAVED

The mistress had sent her new maid, a Scotch girl named Mary, to post an important letter and was anxiously awaiting her return.

"Did you post my letter all right, Mary?" she asked, as the maid entered.

"Oh, yes, ma'am!" replied Mary, holding some change out to her mistress.

"What is this for?" again asked her employer. "I gave it to you for the stamp."

"Oh I didn't have to use it, ma'am. I put the letter in the box when nobody was looking," explained the innocent and thrifty Mary.

D. R. STANIO

## NEAT TIMING

The weather man anticipates  
Three days of heavy rain,  
Enough to flood the highways  
And clog up every drain.

He also forecasts swirling tides,  
High winds, and other tricks.  
And when will this be hitting us?  
Why, Friday night at six!

ROBERT GORDON

## ASTUTE AND HIRSUTE

A modern young man's hair appears to  
be his mane concern.

WALT STREIGHTIFF

## FAULTY NOTION!

Shoppers stared as I passed down the  
length of the mall.

(I looked great!—Proof was home in the  
mirror on my wall.)

The sweet ego I felt, having caught every  
eye,

Disappeared in a rush when a friend  
whispered why:

My unprincipled zipper (the length of a  
spine),

Made for covering backsides, now  
showed most of mine!

BARB BROWNING

## COMING OR GOING!

Most of us would be glad to pay as we go,  
if we could only catch up on paying for  
where we've been.

THOMAS LAMANCE

## ESCAPE

He who escapes his city fair,  
With its gray polluted air,  
Should choose his route with utmost  
care—

Lest in seeking smogless breeze

He find among the forest trees

Other escapees, pair by pair.

Nestling in the campgrounds there—

All throwing garbage everywhere.

A. D. MILLHAM



"It's sure great to be back in  
here with you guys again. I really  
missed our barbershop quartet."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE



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Black OXFORD				Black MONK STRAP			
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